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Somerset Record Society.

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VOL. XXXI.

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THE REGISTER  
OF  
John Stafford,  
Bishop of Bath and Wells,

1425-1443.

ff 1

FROM THE ORIGINAL IN THE  
REGISTRY AT WELLS.

VOL. I.

EDITED BY

THOMAS SCOTT HOLMES, D.D.,  
*Chancellor and Canon Residentiary of Wells Cathedral.*

*Bath & Wells (Diocese) Bishops, 1425-1443 (John Stafford)*

PRINTED FOR SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

1915.

LONDON :  
HARRISON AND SONS, PRINTERS IN ORDINARY TO HIS MAJESTY,  
ST. MARTIN'S LANE.

1293098

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*Ch. T. B. C. - 7.50*



# Somerset Record Society.

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THE subscribers are respectfully referred to the pathetic statement of Canon Scott Holmes at the end of the index as a full and sufficient reason for the delay in issuing these volumes.

Since the last secretarial preface was made a considerable change has been found necessary in the programme. The arrangement made with the Devon and Cornwall Record Society for the joint production of the great Pole MS. was, after all, found unworkable. Although the contents concerned Somerset and Dorset as well as Devon and Cornwall, as the larger part related to the two western counties, it was agreed that the work should be undertaken by the Society for that district, and a beginning will shortly be made in the issue of the work.

This conclusion, only reached at the end of 1915, had the further misfortune of leaving the Somerset Record Society considerably in arrears with their own programme. As the register of Bishop Stafford had been transcribed at the same time as that of Bishop Bubwith, and was available for the Editor, it was decided to issue the work, although it involved the necessity of sending out four volumes of ecclesiastical records in succession.

As the diminished state of the Society's funds leaves nothing available at present for the cost of transcribing new material, Sir H. C. Maxwell-Lyte has kindly offered his collections dealing with the history of the Honour of Dunster and the descent of the manors held under it. His offer has been gratefully accepted, and the first volume will follow the work now sent out to the subscribers.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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John Stafford, bishop of Bath and Wells 1425-1443, and archbishop of Canterbury 1443-1452, was the natural son of Sir Humphrey Stafford of Southwick Court, North Bradley, Wilts, and was born about 1385. He was certainly of illegitimate birth, as Gascoigne delights to tell us (*Loci e libro Ver.*, p. 231), for a papal dispensation granted to him 9 March, 1423 (*C.P.L.*, vol. vij, p. 252), refers to an earlier dispensation which recounted the fact of his illegitimate birth and relieves him of the disabilities created by it. Tradition says he was the son of one, Emma of North Bradley, who afterwards became a sister of the priory of the Holy Trinity, Canterbury, and died there 5 Sept., 1446, *i.e.*, during the time her son was archbishop. He was half-brother to Sir Humphrey Stafford of the Silver Hand, and also of William Stafford; and, through his father, was uncle to Humphrey Stafford, earl of Devon 1439-1469.

The continuation of the History of the bishops of Bath and Wells, written by a canon of Wells, ignores the story of bishop Stafford's ignoble birth and describes him as the ninth son of Humphrey Stafford, earl of Stafford, afterwards duke of Buckingham, and born at Abbatis-villa or Hook, near Beaminster in Dorset. From him Godwin got the same idea, and Richardson, in his development in Latin of Godwin's life (p. 127) says—*Natus est in pago Dorcestrensis in villa patima Hook noncupator*. Since then all writers have adopted the same idea: Britton in his life (1847) says he was the ninth son of the earl of Stafford, but avoids any statement as to his mother, but Dr. Hook speaks very plainly of his origin and tells us (cap. xix, p. 131) that the future bishop's mother was Elizabeth Dynham, relict of Sir John Maltravers of Hook.

Unfortunately this is only true of his younger brothers, and the statement that he was the illegitimate offspring of Emma of North Bradley cannot be put on one side.

He was educated at Oxford and took a degree in Civil Law, and his name appears at the head of the doctors who submitted to the proposed visitation, in 1413, of the University by Philip Repingdon, bishop of Lincoln, whose promotion to the Cardinalate by Gregory XII, in 1408, had made uncertain his position as bishop. Gascoigne calls Stafford civilista and certainly he began his life work as a lawyer. On two distinct occasions in 1418 (14 Feb. and 5 Nov.) he sits with Dr. William Lyndwood in the Court of Appeal (*C.P.R. Hen. V*, 1416-1422), and in the following year, 1419, he was appointed (9 Sept.) archdeacon of Salisbury, and on 2 Dec. 1420 he succeeded Chicheley as Chancellor of Salisbury. (*Bp. Fleming's Reg.*) In 1421 he is described as Clerk of the Privy Seal to Henry V (30 May, *C.P.R. Hen. V*, 1416-22, p. 406) and he is continued in that office by Henry VI, and in 6 April, 1422, he is described as Keeper of the Privy Seal. (*C.P.R. Hen. V*, 1416-1422, 443, and *Hen. VI*, 1422-1429, p. 117.)

On Dec. 18, 1422, by the advice of the Great Council, he is made dean of S. Martin's le Grand (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. i, p. 15) and about the same time Treasurer of England. He is described as such 8 July, 1423. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. i, p. 113.)

In the papal dispensation which recalls the annulment of his birth defect and gave him authority to hold a number of ecclesiastical benefices he is described, 9 March, 1423, as a sub-deacon, holding the archdeaconry of Salisbury, a portion of the portionary church of St. Teath's, Cornwall, the prebendary of Barton in the cathedral church of Wells, and a prebendal stall also at Exeter (*cf. C.P.L.*, vol. vii, p. 252, and Hingeston Randolph's *Reg. of Edmund Stafford*, p. 336). He is also described as the Keeper of King Henry's Secret Seal. As such he was present at the Trial of the Pyx, 6 July, 1423, and we find him on the next day acting as one of the executors of the will of Henry V. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, pp. 117 and 138.) He



had also in the spring of this year, 18 May, obtained the benefice of All Cannings, near Devizes in Wilts. (*Ibid.*, p. 97.)

On the 28 July, 1423, the canons of Wells received licence from bishop Bubwith to elect a dean in place of Walter Medford lately dead, and on 9 Sept., 1423, the bishop at Wookey confirms the election of John Stafford, and certainly at the time some private discussion took place as to his birth defect. (*Cf. Reg. Bubwith S. Rec. Soc.*, vol. xxx, p. li.)

From the *Calendar of Papal Letters* we find that in August, 1423, as Treasurer of England, he was appointed with others as papal agent to proceed against forgers of papal letters and letters of the pope's penitentiary (vol. vij, p. 14), and in September of this year he is described as holding in addition to the above benefices the church of Clifton Campville in Staffordshire, a canonry in the collegiate church of Malling in Kent, and a prebendal stall in the cathedral church of Lichfield (vol. vij, p. 274).

In the following year, February, 1424, as dean of Wells he is appointed on a commission to supervise the building or repair of the walls and fortifications of Bristol (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. i, p. 226), and in September of this year he received the prebendal stall of Milton Manvers in the cathedral church of Lincoln, which in December he apparently exchanges for that of St. Mary Stowe in the same church. (*Ibid.*, pp. 231 and 264.)

On 27 October, 1424, bishop Bubwith died at Wookey, and on 18 Dec., 1424, dean Stafford is provided by the pope with the See of Bath and Wells (*C.P.L.*, vol. vij, p. 408), and on 26 Dec., 1424, his election is certified for Wells by canon John Reynold, subdean, and for Bath by prior John Telysford (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. i, p. 265), and on 25 May, 1425, the Temporalities of the See are restored to him "whom the pope had appointed as bishop of Bath and Wells and who had taken the oath of fealty to the king." (*C.P.R.*, *Ibid.*, p. 274.) On 27 May, 1425, John Stafford was consecrated bishop in the conventual church of the Blackfriars, London, by Henry Beaufort, bishop of Winchester, and five other bishops. (*Cf. Stubbs' Registrum and Stafford's Reg.*, p. 2.) Stafford had for

some time been closely allied with the bishop of Winchester, and the archbishop of Canterbury was already under disfavour at Rome because he had not, at pope Martin's request, obtained the abrogation of the Statutes of Provisors and Præmunire, but since during Chicheley's tenure of the primacy there are several cases where bishop Beaufort or others held consecrations of bishops for the province of Canterbury, it seems unwise to draw conclusions from the absence of the archbishop when the Treasurer of England was consecrated as bishop of Bath and Wells.

Immediately after his consecration bishop Stafford tells us in his register that public business keeps him out of his diocese and he issues from his inn in London three commissions. Bishop Richard of Innis Scatterry he appoints as his suffragan, canon Hody, the precentor of Wells, he makes Vicar General, and canon Storthwayt he appoints as Official Principal.

In the autumn 20 Sept., 1425, he receives papal dispensation for three years to be allowed to reconcile churches and cemeteries in his diocese by deputy, *i.e.*, a fit priest (*C.P.L.*, vol. vii, p. 393), a clear indication that he was not prepared to spend much time at present in his diocese. He had, however, already arrived in Wells, for from 17-19 September he had stayed at his manor house at Wookey and was certainly in Wells on 17 Sept. On the 19 Sept. he went to Bath and on 20 Nov. he had got back to London. In May of this year he had been appointed judge in the Appeal Court (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. i, p. 280), and this with his work as Treasurer, which he had held since 1422, would make it impossible for him to be absent for long from London. The next year he went from London in February with the king to Leicester and again in May he was there with the king at Leicester, and at the council at Northampton when the duke of Bedford was present and endeavoured with momentary success to bring about a reconciliation between his uncle the bishop of Winchester and his brother, the duke of Gloucester. The papal opposition to the archbishop's political caution had shown itself in the nomination of the bishop of Winchester to the cardinalate, and as

his reconciliation to his nephew was pleasing to the king and the duke of Bedford, permission seems to have been given him at this council to accept the preferment, and in the spring of the next year he formally assumed in France the insignia of his appointment. In preparation for this and for his departure from England he resigned, in May, the Chancellorship, and bishop Stafford also resigned the Treasurership to which, on 16 May, Walter Lord Hungerford was appointed. Stafford, however, on 11 July took up once more the office of Lord Privy Seal, and, with the exception of two short visits to his episcopal manor at Dogmersfield, remained for the rest of the year in London.

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Since political peace had been temporarily procured in England in 1427, bishop Stafford began a year of diocesan work in Somerset. In January he obtained a confirmation of the charters and privileges of his See and also those of the Dean and Chapter of Wells and of the prior and monks of Bath. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI.* vol. i, p. 392.) He was at Dogmersfield in March and on 4 April he came to Wells, having arrived at Wookey on 28 March. It was a year of serious visitation and he made formal visits not only to Wells but also to Glastonbury, Bruton, Muchelney and Taunton. He had issued notices of a visitation of the whole diocese (No. 125), and that this visitation really took place is evident by his subsequent enquiries and judgments concerning the priories of Bruton (No. 264) and Taunton (No. 288).

In the following year bishop Stafford was in London till the end of August, when he visited his manor house at Banwell, and in September went to Glastonbury and was for a few days at Wookey. In December of this year he obtained from the absent cardinal of Winchester a licence to regard his manor of Dogmersfield in Hampshire as part of his own diocese, so that he could thus celebrate Holy Orders and exercise his episcopal jurisdiction as if he were in Somerset (No. 203).

In January, 1429, pope Martin V issued his bull on heretics, calling upon the faithful to unite in exterminating them and suppressing all false doctrine. Convocation met in February

and the case of Thomas Bagley, vicar of Maldon in Essex, was considered, who was unwilling to recant and whose sentence was deferred. It does not appear that bishop Stafford was present, though he certainly was in London during that month. In March he came down to Wookey and probably kept Easter in Wells and returned immediately to London for the rest of the year. On 9 Aug. he confirmed the appointment of Richard Glastenbury as prior of Bruton (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. ii, p. 23) and in September unites with his relative Humphrey Stafford in a grant of some land to the abbot of Abbotsbury for works of piety and for prayers and masses for the good estate of the king, of Humphrey duke of Gloucester, of himself and Humphrey Stafford and their parents. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. ii, p. 63.) On 6 November Henry VI was crowned at Westminster and the duke of Gloucester was deprived of his protectorate. In December Stafford sits in the appeal court to hear an appeal of the Hamburg merchants. (*C.P.R., Ibid.*, pp. 23 and 36.)

On 18 April, 1430, he writes to his diocese to say that on the command of the king he is going to France and consequently will be absent from his diocese *per aliqua tempora*, and he threatens all disturbers of the peace with ecclesiastical punishments (No. 268). He had apparently been in Wells for Easter and he was back again in the diocese towards the end of August. The king was absent from England from May 30, 1430, to Feb. 1, 1432, but clearly the Lord of the Privy Seal had legal business which compelled him to be often in London. During the king's absence the duke of Gloucester was again Protector, and his attention was drawn to the activities of the Lollards. William Perkins had gathered a band together in Oxfordshire, and the duke took an armed force and suppressed his rising at Abingdon and hung Perkins at Oxford. There are in the bishop's register two references which show he was watching the movements of the Lollards. In 1426 an undated document in the register (No. 83) refers to a heretic William who was imprisoned in the bishop of London's palace, and in March, 1430, we have a long account of the trial of William Emayn, of

Bristol, in the Chapter House in Wells. Emayn's opinions were pronounced heretical and he abjured them (No. 263).

In August, 1431 (No. 332), he issues injunctions against the Lollards and in that autumn he announces that he has been summoned to the Council of Basel, but as he cannot go he appoints as his proctors the bishop of London, Andrew Hole, Thomas Morice, Robert Sutton, John Geel, and Theodeuceus de Cardecoep (No. 346). The king's deputies included the bishop of London and the abbot of Glastonbury and were appointed 15 Nov., 1431, and some others were added on 3 June, 1434. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. iii, p. 342.)

During 1431 the bishop had been twice in his diocese and spent Christmas at Dogmersfield. The king was crowned at Paris on 16 Dec., 1431, and it is uncertain whether the bishop was present. He went to Dogmersfield on Dec. 2 and he was there on Jan. 6, but it is possible that he may have crossed over during the interval to France and attended the king at this function. He was certainly in London in February, 1432. On 25th of that month the archbishop of York resigned the Chancellorship of England, and on 4 March bishop Stafford accepted office and is the first of the chancellors of England who was called Lord Chancellor. (*Stubbs*, vol. iii, pp. 114 and 132.) During this year he does not appear to have visited his diocese at all, nor indeed does he seem to have had any serious relief from his work for the State. He went down on several occasions for a brief rest at Dogmersfield, and on 19 April held an ordination there under a licence he obtained from his friend the bishop of Winchester. In the diocese, however, there were four ordinations taken this year by his deputy Richard bishop of Innis Scattery.

In 1433 his time was also fully occupied with national business. He did, however, pay a brief visit in September to the diocese and was at Wookey, Banwell and Bath, and it was probably at this time that he received a petition from the Dean and Chapter of Wells to allow them a right of way into the cloister garth and the camera through his private land which

stretched between his road into the palace and the cloister garth. Work was going on in the rebuilding of the cloister, especially on the east side, and the chamber above which was to be the library of the cathedral, and for which bishop Bubwith had left money, was already begun. This permission the bishop granted, and it is possible that the change in the hanging of the door on the S.E. of the cloister was made at this time. The door itself and its archway belongs to the older cloister of the XIIIth century, though the cloister here and the room over the cloister, a continuation of bishop Bubwith's library, were erected about twenty years later. (*D. and C. Rep.*, vol. ii, p. 465.) In October of this year the bishop was in town again and on 27 Oct. took part in the Trial of the Pyx (*C.P.R.*, vol. ii, p. 255) and he was probably present at the convocation at S. Paul's on 7 November.

In the spring of 1434 he had as Chancellor to take part with others in the ordering of the affairs of the monastery of Strata Florida (*C.P.R.*, vol. ii, p. 295). The estates of the monastery had been almost ruined through the bad management of the then abbot, and it was necessary for the king to take over these lands that they might be properly arranged for the benefit of the monks. On 1 May he took pledges from the Somerset landowners (*C.P.R.*, vol. ii, p. 382) not to maintain or receive any breakers of the peace. He was almost certainly present at the important session of convocation at St. Paul's in October. (*Wilkins*, vol. iii, p. 523.) At this meeting the Church issued a solemn condemnation against all who would take from the liberties of the Church, all who drew refugees out of Sanctuary and all who used witchcraft or were heretics or inclined to Lollardism. When towards Christmas he went for rest to Dogmersfield he received an appeal (*D. and C. Rep.*, vol. i, p. 391) from the Dean and Chapter against John Greene, vicar of St. Cuthbert's Church, Wells, and decided in favour of the Dean and Chapter. A former vicar, Richard Harewell, had left certain funds to the vicarage of St. Cuthbert's on condition that the vicars paid yearly £10 to the Dean and Chapter for the maintenance of the choir boys and tabularii, and by

the next year the rights of the Dean and Chapter were firmly established.

In 1435 the bishop visited the diocese on two occasions and on 2 April took an ordination in the cathedral church of Bath, and the decisions of convocation of the previous autumn were solemnly issued through the archdeacons to the diocese. When he was at Dogmersfield on his way to his diocese he also issued to the diocese through the dean and the archdeacons an earnest letter concerning religious education, laying down the points which should be insisted on and summing up Catholic Truth with remarkable clearness and simplicity. (*Cf.* Nos. 509 and 511.)

During the next year, 1436, as Chancellor he seems to have remained in London, only visiting Dogmersfield occasionally for a brief rest, and it is clear that his work as Chancellor made it almost impossible for him to visit his diocese except quite briefly and during the legal vacations. Certainly during the next year, 1437, he spent his summer holiday in the diocese, but the ordinations were all taken by his suffragan bishop, Richard, and most of his business work for the diocese was performed in London. During this year, and indeed in the autumn of the year before, he had a certain amount of discipline to decide with regard to some monks of Glastonbury (Nos. 599 and 613) and on 1 August he issued notice to the Dean and Chapter for the visitation of the cathedral (No. 637). The matter of the visitation, however, we have considered in another section of this Introduction.

In 1438 he confirms the arrangement made between the abbess and convent of Zyon and the vicar of Yeovil concerning tithes and yearly payments due to the vicar (*D. and C. Rep.*, vol. ii, p. 462) and as Chancellor on behalf of the Crown pardoned (*C.P.R.*, vol. iii, p. 192) Patrick Stack of Hiworth, Wills Taillour, and John Dollard of Bristol, who had been condemned by the Justice in Eyre at Ilchester and had been imprisoned in the palace prison at Wells as criminals who after their condemnation had claimed benefit of clergy. They had

escaped on St. Matthew's day, 1437, but had been recaptured and were then still in prison in Wells.

The increase of chantries and endowments for mortuary matters in the Cathedral Church at Wells had involved an increase of chantry priests and chaplains. These were more or less gathered into the larger new chantry college, and in May of this year he issued from London various rules and regulations for their discipline (p. 220). When he was at Wookey in August he had to adjudicate in the case of Agnes Hancock, a woman of Montacute, whose heretical vagaries had brought censure and condemnation upon her (p. 226). From the *Calendars of Papal Letters* during this period we meet with the recognition, 13 Sept., 1435, of William Lech, a friar preacher, as a permanent chaplain of the bishop (vol. viii, p. 542) and on 16 Oct., 1436, John Lane, rector of Beckington, is also recognised as a chaplain (p. 588) and permanent member of the bishop's household, and in 1439 and 1441 John Marsley, rector of Hinton St. George, Thomas Crumpton, vicar of Chew, and Thomas Parle, rector of Winfrith, are recognised as members of the bishop's household. (*C.P.L.*, vol. ix, pp. 62, 79 and 156.)

During the next five years his visits to the diocese were very short. In March, 1439, he was in Wells, and in September in Wookey, but the next year he did not appear once. In 1441 he came to Wells in April for three or four days and took a large ordination at Yeovil on 1 April, and another one on 15 April in his manor chapel at Dogmersfield, and he had another ordination in the same chapel in December. In the following January, 1442, he visited Wells, apparently for the last time, and went back to London before the month was out. During this period he had issued an offer of Indulgence to those who offered thanks for the return of the Eastern Church to union with Rome (No. 762) and soon after, in 1441, he issued an order for Solemn Penitential processions to be made in every church in the diocese to beg from God His blessing on the country and His grant of peace with France (No. 827).

In the Patent Rolls we find authority granted to him



8 May, and 22 July, 1440 (*C.P.R.* 1436-1441, pp. 427 and 447) to found a chantry at St. Nicholas' altar at the parish church of Croydon and a guild or fraternity attached to the church of St. Dunstan's in the West, Fleet Street. It is probable, however, that in both these instances he was acting for others and promoted their desire on condition that his own name was associated with those of others in the daily intercession for divine blessings.

On 9 May, 1442, he was appointed by the pope as one of the receivers of alms for the building of St. Mary's, Eton. (*C.P.L.*, vol. viii, p. 240.) It was in this year that pope Eugenius removed the Council of Florence, as far as it could still be regarded as a Council, to Rome, and the next year, 1443, saw the end, in May, of the Council of Basel.

At some time during his episcopacy in this diocese he gave over to the Dean and Chapter ten books for the new Chapter Library already being built over the S.E. cloister. There is no date to the document, and so we cannot say when exactly the gift was made, but in it bishop Stafford stipulated that during his life time he should have such use of the books as he might desire. Among the books, the list of which is almost illegible through the damp, are the *Polichronicon*, the *Casum Bernardi*, John Andrew on the Novellae, a book on the Decretals, and others which it is almost impossible now to describe, so fragmentary and worm-eaten is the parchment. (Charter 637, *D. and C. Rep. Record*, vol. ii, p. 678.)

Bishop Stafford had always been the friend of archbishop Chicheley and it was the archbishop who had brought him forward and introduced him to Henry VI and was responsible for most of his later promotion. When the archbishop was under the censure of pope Eugenius IV he asked for permission to resign and then recommended bishop Stafford as his successor. Archbishop Chicheley died on 12 April, 1443. Bishop Stafford was either in London or Dogmersfield and at once the king's chaplain, Thomas Bekyngton, began a correspondence with the papal secretaries to promote at the wish of the king the appointment of the bishop of Bath and Wells. As king's

Privy Seal he informed the papal secretary of the death of the archbishop and of the king's wish in reference to the succession. He also wrote to Angelo Gattola, the papal scrutiifer, and to Bartholomew de Rovarella, the papal cubicular, and soon after to Vincent Clement, an English agent at Rome, to say how anxious the king was to hear of the fulfilment of his desire. Soon after Henry VI himself wrote to the College of Cardinals in favour of bishop Stafford, and at the same time, since the bishop of Salisbury did not desire the change which had been suggested from Salisbury to Wells, he recommended Thomas Bekyngton for the See of Bath and Wells. (*Bekyngton's Correspondence, Roll's Chronicles*, vol. i, pp. 145, 172, 173, 174, 175, and vol. ii, p. 75.)

Archbishop Chicheley, when under papal censure he desired to resign Canterbury, is said to have won over his chapter there to the choice of bishop Stafford as his successor, and when the vacancy occurred through death no opposition was made, either by the Canterbury Chapter or the Papal Curia. He was appointed on 13 May, 1443, and the formal consent of the king was given 24 May (*C.P.R.*, p. 176), the Temporalities were restored to him on June 25, and on 5 August he was welcomed as their archbishop in his cathedral city. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, vol. iv, p. 190.)

Provision was also made 24 July, 1443, for Thomas Bekyngton to the See of Bath and Wells, and on 15 June the bishops of Rochester and S. Asaph were appointed by the Papal Curia to receive the oath of fealty to Rome from the new archbishop and so save him the journey he would otherwise have had to make to the papal city. The pope had meanwhile received at Sienna the two messengers, Thomas Bird, a friar preacher, and Vincent Clement, archdeacon of Tortona, and on 15 July, 1443, he sent the pallium to the bishops of London and Rochester to confirm the new archbishop after he had taken the oath of obedience to the Papal See. (*C.P. Letters*, vol. viii, p. 258.)

In his Theological Dictionary Gascoigne shows a very poor opinion of Stafford as archbishop. He considers him as a man

intruded into the archbishopric and will not forget the statement, which probably was quite accurate, that he was the offspring of an adulterous connection and had also been appointed by the pope and not truly and freely elected. He was certainly a civil servant and valuable as an ecclesiastical lawyer, but he never claimed to be a great theologian. It was also Gascoigne's deep sneer that in the reign of Henry VI England saw a bastard appointed as Chancellor of the Kingdom. (*Cf.* Roger's Edn. *Loci e libro Veritatis*, pp. 40, 208 and 231.)

The same year, and as early as 13 May, 1443, he supported the earl of Suffolk in the negotiations for the king's marriage, and on 22 April, 1445, he officiated as archbishop at Titchfield at the marriage of Henry VI to princess Margaret of Anjou, the daughter of René, duke of Anjou. In July of 1445 he received officially the French embassy, but was not anxious to support the king in his desire for peace, and during that year was cautious in holding the balance between the duke of Suffolk and the duke of Gloucester. Parliament met in 1447 at Bury St. Edmunds and the arrest of the duke of Gloucester was ordered, but he was found dead at his lodging on 23 Feb., 1447.

In January, 1450, the duke of Suffolk was also impeached by the House of Commons and was banished, and on 22 May was beheaded while at sea, and that same month archbishop Stafford, perhaps through old age, resigned the office of Chancellor. (*Stubbs*, vol. iii, p. 144.) This action showed clearly that he was no longer popular with the court party and it is probably this act of his and his unpopularity with the court party which gave him influence with the people in the rising that summer when, in June, Jack Cade and his agrarian comrades marched on London, and bishop Ayscough of Salisbury and bishop Molineux of Chichester lost their lives. In the crisis in London the archbishop drew up a general pardon and this had the effect of increasing his influence with the insurgents and brought a very large number of them to submission. The failure of Cade's rebellion and his death at Heathfield in Sussex was largely due to the wisdom of the archbishop, and in August, 1450,

he was appointed a member of the commission to try the Kent offenders. A year after he welcomed the king, who came to Canterbury on a pilgrimage to the tomb of St. Thomas of Canterbury, and during that year did all he could to modify the rival influences of the dukes of Somerset and York, but ere the two parties in 1452 came into collision the archbishop fell ill on 25 May in London and was taken to his manor at Maidstone, and died there on 6 July and was buried at Canterbury in the Martyrdom Chapel.

Archbishop Stafford was a cautious and good lawyer, and it was as such that he won the favour of archbishop Chicheley, and though Gascoigne, in his desire to see the Church of England more under spiritual church influences, was hostile to his memory, yet there is no doubt that his influence was all in the right direction and he did everything he could for the preservation of peace at home. His biographer, the canon of Wells (*Wharton Ang. Sacr.*, I, p. 572), wanders off on his noble birth, but he had no authority for his statement, and it is certain that the archbishop's origin was of the humble nature we have already mentioned. The canon of Wells and his imitator, Richard Godwin, in his *Life* (p. 379), calls him "in nobilitate summa," a statement based on no authority, and made in defiance of this statement, which cannot be ignored.

#### ITINERARY OF BISHOP STAFFORD AS SHOWN IN HIS OFFICIAL REGISTER.

1425. May 28 and through June and July, Bishop's Inn, London. 8 Sept., Dogmersfield. 17 Sept., Wookey and Wells. 19 Sept., Bath Priory. 20 Nov., London.
1426. 12 Feb., London. 20 Feb., Leicester. 25 April, London. 8 May, Leicester. 27 June, London. 4 Sept., Dogmersfield. 13 Oct., London. 1 Nov., Dogmersfield. 10 Nov. and December, London.
1427. 3 Jan., Dogmersfield. 15 Jan., London. 21 March, Dogmersfield. 28 March, Wookey. 4 April, Wells.

- 6 April, Glastonbury. 10 April, Muchelney and Ilchester. 11 April, Ditcheat. 15 April, Bruton Priory. 17 April, Wells. 24 April, Wookey. 10 May, London. 3 Aug., Dogmersfield. 24 Aug., Wookey. 19 Sept., Bruton Priory. 25 Sept., Dogmersfield. 11 Oct., London. 17 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1428. 30 Jan., London, and so through February and March. 30 March, Dogmersfield. 30 April, London, and so through May, June, July and August. 31 August, Hanwell. 15 Sept., Glastonbury. 16 Sept., Wookey. 28 Sept., Southwick (Hants). 15 Oct., Dogmersfield. 7 Nov., London. 18 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1429. 20 Jan., London, and through February. 7 March, Wookey, and on 1 April. 19 April, London. 13 May, Dogmersfield. 18 June, London, and through July to 9 August, Dogmersfield. 23 August, London. 8 Sept., Dogmersfield. 22 Sept., London. 23 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1430. 9 January, London, and through February. 16 March, Wookey. 27 March, Frome. 18 April, London, and through May, June and July. On 14 August he is at Ditcheat. 22 Aug., Crewkerne. 27 Aug., Taunton. 27 Aug., Ditcheat. 16 Sept., Dogmersfield. 4 Oct. London. 5 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1431. 16 Jan., London, and so through February and March. 23 March, Dogmersfield. 20 April, London. 2 June, Wookey. 3 June, Wells. 28 June, London. 28 July, Dogmersfield. 1 Aug., London. 22 Aug., Dogmersfield. 3 Sept., Wookey. 5 Sept., Bridgwater. 11 Sept., Wookey. 17 Sept., Evercreech. 3 Oct., Dogmersfield. 25 Oct., London. 2 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1432. 6 Jan., Dogmersfield. 14 Feb., London. 11 March, Dogmersfield. 26 March, London. 9 April, Dogmersfield. 6 May, London, and so through June and July. 8 Aug., Dogmersfield. 1 Sept., London. 2 Sept., Dogmersfield. 21 Sept., London. 5 Oct., Dogmersfield. 3 Nov., London. 12 Dec., Dogmersfield.

1433. 12 Jan., Dogmersfield. 23 Jan., London. 13 Feb., Dogmersfield. 22 March, London. 19 April, Canterbury. 11 May, Calais. 23 May, Dogmersfield. 23 May, London. 5 June, Dogmersfield. 1 July, London. 11 Sept., Wookey. 18 and 19 Sept., Bath. 21 Sept., Banwell. 21 Sept., Bath. 26 Sept., Dogmersfield. 28 Sept., Andover. 5 Oct., Dogmersfield. 15 Oct., London. 23 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1434. 2 Jan., Dogmersfield. 22 Jan., London. 5 March, Dogmersfield. 15 April, London. 18 July, Dogmersfield. 9 Aug., Chiswick. 26 Aug., Dogmersfield, and so through September, October, November and December.
1435. 19 Jan., London. 24 Feb., Dogmersfield. 22 March, Wookey. 3 April, Bath. 6 April, Andover. 13 April, Dogmersfield. 3 May, London. 11 May, Dogmersfield. 15 May, London, and so through June. 21 July, Chiswick. 5 Aug., Dogmersfield. 11 Aug., London. 13 Aug., Dogmersfield. 6 Sept., Wookey. 22 Sept., London, and so to end of the year.
1436. January, London, and February also. 1 March, Dogmersfield. 2 March, London. 3 April, Dogmersfield. 12 April, London. 26 June, Dogmersfield. 6 July, London. 24 July, Canterbury. 12 Aug., London. 21 Aug., Dogmersfield. 16 Oct., London. 2 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1437. 2 Jan., Dogmersfield. 24 Jan., London, and so till 1 Aug., Dogmersfield. 29 Aug., Taunton Priory. 5 Sept., Banwell. 11 Sept., Wells. 3 Oct., Dogmersfield. 5 Nov., Chiswick. 8 Nov., London. 5 Dec., Bagshot. 7 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1438. 14 Jan., Staines. 20 Jan., London. 25 Feb., Dogmersfield. 10 March, London. 6 April, Dogmersfield. 1 May, London. 22 July, Dogmersfield. 24 Aug., Wookey. 28 Aug., Banwell. 31 Aug., Wookey.

- 2 Sept., Evercreech. 6 Sept., Dogmersfield. 7 Oct., Oxford. 13 Oct., London. 2 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1439. 2 Jan., Dogmersfield. 28 Jan., London. 3 March, Wells. 15 March, Lympham. 26 March, Wells. 27 March, London. 9 April, Dogmersfield. 21 April, London. 5 June, Dogmersfield. 14 June, London. 8 Sept., Wookey. 14 Sept., Chew Magna. 17 Sept., Southwick. 12 Oct., London, and so through November. 24 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1440. 22 Jan., Dogmersfield. 3 Feb., Reading. 9 March, Dogmersfield. 14 April, London. 25 June, Chiswick. 1 July, London. 3 Aug., Dogmersfield. 19 Aug., Chiswick. 28 Aug., Dogmersfield. 18 Oct., London, and so through November. 19 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1441. 5 Jan., Chiswick. 30 Jan., London. 1 March, Dogmersfield. 4 April, Wookey. 5 April, Wells. 10 April, Dogmersfield. 29 April, London. 1 May, Chiswick. 13 May, London. 12 June, Dogmersfield. 11 July, London. 1 Aug., Dogmersfield. 14 Sept., London. 9 Oct., Dogmersfield. 2 Nov., London. 18 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1442. 6 Jan., Wells. 31 Jan., London. 3 April, Dogmersfield. 19 April, London. 7 Aug., Dogmersfield. 28 Aug., London. 12 Sept., Dogmersfield. 23 Oct., London. 2 Dec., Dogmersfield.
1443. 4 Jan., Dogmersfield. 24 Jan., London. 12 Feb., Chiswick. 6 April, London. 14 April, Dogmersfield. 4 May, London. 15 June, Chiswick. 4 July, London.

APPOINTMENTS OF DIOCESAN OFFICERS MADE BY BISHOP  
STAFFORD DURING HIS EPISCOPATE.

- 5 June, 1425. Canon John Hody, precentor, to be Vicar General.
- „ J. Storthwayt, succentor . . Official Principal.

- Richard, bishop of Innis Scatterry, Bishop Suffragan.  
 30 June, 1425. Peter Cola, Apparitor General.  
 18 April, 1430. Dean J. Forest.  
 Archdeacon T. Bubbewith.  
 Canon J. Price  
 „ J. Bath  
 to be his Vicars General.  
 10 March, 1437. John bishop Olensis, Bishop Suffragan.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF WELLS.

- 10 Nov., 1427. John Storthwayt. Precentor.  
 4 Sept., 1426. John Hody, vice T. Shelford, deceased, Chancellor.  
 19 March, 1440. John Storthwayt, vice John Hody, Chancellor.  
 17 Sept., 1439. Peter Stucley, vice Wm. Lambrook, Treasurer.  
 10 Feb., 1427. John Bernard, Succentor.  
 30 Jan., 1428. Thos. Warde, vice Roger Harwell, archdeacon of Bath.  
 12 July, 1426. John Hiller Ashill.  
 10 Nov., 1433. David Price „  
 10 June, 1434. Richard Moresby „  
 John Knyght Buckland Dinham.  
 8 Sept., 1425. Richard Caudray „  
 23 Oct., 1431. William Grey „  
 Reynold Brita Combe 1.  
 17 July, 1434. John de Obezis „  
 Richard Stanton Combe 2.  
 13 July, 1437. Walter Foolde „  
 17 March, 1426. Thomas Circestre Combe 4.  
 Henry Penwortham Combe 6.  
 7 June, 1434. Richard Forest „  
 29 Sept., 1435. John Burdet „



	John Brokhole	Combe 7.
31 May, 1434.	John Blodewell	„
10 March, 1437.	Richard Hoore	„
7 Dec., 1441.	John Amela	„
28 April, 1440.	John Arnald	Combe 9.
23 Nov., 1441.	Wm. Skelton	„
	Wm. Derby	Combe 10.
10 Nov., 1426.	Wm. Benham	„
	Henry Abingdon	Combe 11.
10 March, 1438.	John Stevens	„
30 Nov., 1441.	Richard Hoore	Combe 12.
	Thomas Bourghier	Combe 13.
8 May, 1435.	Richard Petteworth	
19 Sept., 1425.	Nicholas Dixon	Combe 14.
1 July, 1433.	John Lukk, S.T.P.	„
10 Aug., 1435.	Wm. Stephens	„
28 May, 1441.	Gilbert Kymer, M.D.	„
13 March, 1438.	Robert Parfyt	Combe 15.
27 April, 1439.	Nicholas Carant	„
	John Hody	Compton Bishop.
19 Nov., 1440.	Fulk Bermyngham	„
	Henry Blakemor	Compton Dundon.
12 May, 1440.	Richard Leyot	„
	Humphrey Rodeley	Cudworth.
23 June, 1429.	John Conge	„
26 Feb., 1427.	Roger Corndon	Curry.
5 June, 1432.	William Bykonell	„
	David Price	St. Decuman's.
16 Oct., 1433.	John Hiller	„
16 April, 1435.	David Price	„
9 June, 1437.	Peter Stucle	„
12 March, 1438.	William Stevences	„

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	Thomas Feryby	Dinder.
22 Jan., 1426.	Richard Benastre	„
6 April, 1431.	Nicholas Upton	„
5 Dec., 1427.	Peter Stukeley	Dultingert.
4 Feb., 1437.	John Southwode	„
11 April, 1441.	Thomas Bekyngton	„
4 May, 1443.	William Bykonill	„
31 May, 1435.	Nicholas Bylceston	Easton in Gordano.
27 May, 1441.	Robert Parfyt	„
	Nicholas Sturgeon	Haselbere.
6 Nov., 1440.	Richard Betty	„
18 April, 1441.	John Stopyndon	„
	John Stokes	Henstridge.
14 Sept., 1441.	Nicholas Sturgeon	„
	John Drum	Holcombe.
31 Jan., 1431.	John Bernard	„
	Richard Harewell	Lytton.
15 May, 1435.	John Storthwayt	„
	William Lyndwood	Taunton.
13 Aug., 1433.	Thomas Astell	„
6 June, 1439.	John Pederton	„
11 July, 1428.	John Birkhede	Timberscombe.
6 Dec., 1427.	Alan Humberston	Wanstrow.
19 Feb., 1434.	John Marshall	„
25 Oct., 1429.	John Urry	Warminster or Luxvile.
7 June, 1434.	Henry Penwortham	„
12 April, 1441.	Robert Corff	„
1 March, 1436.	Adam Moleyns	Wedmore 2.
5 Jan., 1441.	John Delabere	„
	John Cole	Wedmore 3.
11 May, 1433.	Robert Corff	„
13 April, 1441.	Thomas Asshedale	„

	John Depeden	Wedmore 4
14 Feb., 1439.	Robert Asen	„
9 Nov., 1427.	Thomas Humfrey	Wedmore 5.
16 April, 1433.	Walter Shirington	„
26 Nov., 1429.	John Daventre, S.T.P.	Whitchurch.
	William Felter	Whitelackington.
23 June, 1435.	John Bate	„
	John Bath	Wiveliscombe.
10 March, 1438.	Peter Stucle	„
	Wm. Lambrok	Wormestre.
21 April, 1439.	Thomas Bekyngton	

## THE BISHOP AND THE SOMERSET MONASTERIES.

*Barlinch.*—On 24 Nov., 1430, the bishop's commissary, canon J. Bernard, sat in St. Mary's Church, Taunton, to hear the matter of the election of a new prior, and confirmed the election of Thomas Bury as successor to John Porter, deceased (p. 287).

*Barrow Gurney.*—On 20 May, 1432, at London, the bishop appoints as prioress Joan Stabler. The bishops of the diocese had often to interfere in the affairs of this little priory of Benedictine Nuns. In 1410. bishop Bubwith had arranged for the resignation of Margerie Fitznichol, the prioress, but apparently she was not satisfied with the pension to be offered to her and in 1412 the bishop wrote to her enjoining obedience to the rules of the house. (*S.R.S.*, vol. 29, pp. 84, 115.) The present action of the bishop was due to the fact that the priory had been practically without a prioress for a long time and the right of appointment had lapsed to him (p. 121).

*Bath.*—Our only notice of this abbey is the acknowledgment by prior William Southbroke on 24 March, 1427, that he had received the bishop's announcement of his intention to hold a visitation of the abbey on 1 May, 1427. No record of the

fact or of the comperta and judgment of the bishop exists (p. 52).

*Bath.*—St. John's Hospital. The master of this hospital was commissioned by the bishop 25 Dec., 1437, to take part with the prior of the abbey in the reception of John Halle, vicar of Chew, as a Benedictine monk (p. 212). And again on 30 January, 1439, in the reception of Nicholas Cousin. The master of the hospital was John Byrman (p. 233).

*Bedminster.*—St. Katharine's Hospital. John Fulford, S.T.P., of the Order of Friars Preachers, was instituted by the bishop 1 June, 1425, as Master of this hospital in succession to John Cariscombe (p. 29).

*Bridgwater.*—St. John the Baptist Hospital. The only reference to this hospital is the appointment of the Master as a collector of taxes due to the Crown from the clergy of the Diocese (p. 180).

*Bridgwater.*—The Franciscan or Minorite Priory. On 20 Feb., 1435, the bishop sanctions the exhumation of the bodies of various members of the Botreaux family from North Cadbury church and their burial in the conventual church of these friars (p. 170).

*Bristol.*—The Hospital of St. John the Baptist, Redcliffe. The troubles caused by the misrule of the prior John Seyntpoul are alluded to in the Crown enquiry as to the grant of priory lands at Batcombe and the breach of the peace which had taken place there (p. 121). The priorship was apparently vacant when bishop Stafford began his episcopate, for bishop Bubwith received the resignation of John Shaftesbury, the successor of John Seyntpoul, on 28 July, 1424. (S.R.S., vol. 29, p. lxi.) In his place one Nicholas Sterr seems to have been appointed, and on 24 Jan., 1437, the bishop sanctions the appointment by the Mayor and Commonalty of Bristol of Clement Bagot as the successor to Sterr (p. 212).

*Bruton.*—The condition of the priory of Austin Canons at Bruton had caused bishop Bubwith on more than one occasion

to interfere. The prior, John Schoyle, had allowed the discipline of the priory and its estates to fall into disorder, and it was clear that he was quite unfitted to rule over the house. Bishop Stafford was at the priory 15 April and again 19 September, 1427, and on March 20, 1428, issued a series of injunctions concerning the discipline and management of the prior which he called upon the prior and canons to obey (p. 80). Irreverence in the Conventual Church seemed to prevail and the canons were wont to walk about and hold conversation with suspected people during the celebration of the Mass. It was said that the prior himself scarcely celebrated mass twice in the year, and he is expressly enjoined to celebrate at the greater Double Feasts and to be present on Sundays and festivals at matins, processions and masses and to hold the weekly chapter of the canons in the Chapter House. Silence and contemplation at certain hours and in the proper place for such is ordered. The prior had never shown any statement of accounts of the property of the canons. He is ordered to produce such for the past years of his priorship and to show such an account in the future yearly under pain of excommunication. All the goods of the priory belong to the prior and canons, and the prior is to consult the canons always before action, and in important matters concerning the estates he is to consult the council, *i.e.*, Sir Hugh Luterel the patron and others. All women are to be forbidden access to the priory and one woman who was evidently suspected is expressly ordered to be refused admittance into any part of the priory buildings. The prior's chamberlain, William Hoper, is regarded as a stirrer up of strife between the prior and the canons. He is forbidden entrance into the convent. These injunctions were to be read in chapter four times a year (p. 80). It is not easy to discover what exactly happened as the result of the bishop's action, but apparently John Schoyle was induced to resign his priorship, for on 8 Aug., 1429, the bishop admitted Richard Glastenbury as prior in succession to Schoyle (p. 286). (*C.P.R. Henry VI, 1429-1436*, p. 23.) The new prior seems to have been as unfitted for such a post as his predecessor, for on 14 Nov., 1430,

and again 21 Nov., 1430 (pp. 92 and 93), the bishop wrote strongly to the effect that he had heard that the prior and convent had not attended to his monitions and that he would suspend all who presided over the house if obedience was not promptly shown. He further ordered the sub-prior to read the injunctions he had put forth twice weekly in the chapter house. The removal of suspicious women was expressly ordered. On p. 96 we have, perhaps, the explanation. The former prior, Schoyle, was still in the priory, and on 10 Feb., 1431, he was removed to the priory of Poughele, a small house of Austin Canons, in the parish of Chadleworth near Wantage. The cleaning of the priory, however, was not thus effected, and it remained to bishop Beckington to deal with prior Glastenbury in 1448, and happily his death soon after opened a way for prior Henton to carry out this desired reform. (*S.R.S.*, vol. 8, p. xxxv.)

*Cannington.*—All that is recorded in this Register of the history of this small and select house of Benedictine Nuns is the licence to the bishop's commissaries, Canons Bernard and Stevenes, 14 April, 1440, to enquire into and to confirm if satisfactory the selection of Joan Gofyse as prioress in succession to Joan Chedeldon who had lately died (p. 248).

*Dunster.*—On 28 July, 1425, the bishop as titular abbot of Bath appointed Dan John Henton, one of the monks of Bath, as prior of this small Benedictine house in succession to the late prior John Telisford (p. 30).

*Glastonbury.*—After the long abbotship of John Chynnock, 1374–1420, it was likely that his successor, Nicholas Frome, found much to reform. On 24 Jan., 1437, the bishop wrote to Richard Fowey, a monk of the abbey, absolving him for his offences and bidding him submit to the discipline of the abbey. Fowey was said to be of noble birth and to have incurred the wrath of the abbot because of incontinence. Fearing the punishment of the abbot, he had fled the monastery and sought a protecting influence before going back (pp. 198 and 201; *cf.* also *C. P. Letters*, vol. viii, p. 603). The finances of the house as well

as the morals of the monks seem to have needed the abbot's attention, and we find in 1443 that he had to prosecute Bartholomew Downton of Lyllington in Dorset because of his unwillingness to give up his accounts when he was receiver in that county for abbot Chynmoke. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI. 1429-1436*, p. 308.) Abbot Frome was one of the ambassadors sent to the Council of Basel in 1434 to represent the English Church and nation, and in May of that year obtained his protection order from suits and processes such as might be begun against him during his absence. (*Ibid.*, pp. 342 and 345.) During Stafford's episcopate two foreigners were certified as obtaining permits of residence at Glastonbury, John Hans, born in Strausberg in Hanover, and Bruno Weryng, born in Cologne. (*Ibid.*, pp. 560 and 574.) In 1435 the bishop issued to the guardian of the Glastonbury jurisdiction his scheme for religious instruction (p. 173).

*Muchelney*.—Our first notice of this Benedictine Abbey is in January, 1426, when the bishop writes on the authority of the Papal Curia to protect John Spenser, a monk of Muchelney. He had endeavoured to leave the monastery and obtain a secular benefice and had exhibited certain bulls which were forgeries. He did not know they were such and had been deceived, and had now procured a genuine bull from Martin V (p. 34). On March 27, 1435, the bishop wrote to the abbot of Muchelney to say that he was too much engaged in his duties as Chancellor to undertake the visitation of his abbey, as he had given him notice and that in his stead he had asked abbot Frome of Glastonbury to undertake it (p. 181). The report of the abbot of Glastonbury does not seem to have been favourable, and on 1 August, 1437, the bishop summoned the abbot and all the monks to appear before him in their chapter house on the 30 August (p. 209). In the following October the bishop through his commissaries convey to the abbot the bishop's order that a certain gate at the east of the conventual church called Sexteynegate is to be permanently closed. He had heard that laundry women and others were in the habit of using it at all hours, and gave cause for suspicion, and this

danger must be prevented. He also forbade the monks from going out for pleasure and shows. It was evident that the discipline of the house was somewhat lax (p. 210). The following month he wrote to the abbot that the suspension of his authority was now over (p. 210).

*Stavordale*.—The canons of this small Augustinian priory had been busy through the generosity of John Stourton in the erection of a new chapel, and on 4 June, 1443, the bishop commissioned bishop John Bloxwych, late bishop of Holar in Iceland, to go and consecrate it and the burial ground attached to it (p. 284).

*Taunton*.—In 1430 there seems to have been some scandal in this priory, and four of the Austin Canons, Richard Ravel, Thomas Crook, John Lymyn and John Curteys had been sentenced to certain penalties by Canon David Price, acting as bishop's commissary. Perhaps the sentences were excessive, for on 4 Nov., 1430, the bishop gave power to the prior to mitigate or increase the penalties since these canons had shown signs of true penitence (p. 92).

*Stogursey*.—This alien priory of Benedictines had ceased as a cell of the Norman monastery of Lonlay and the estates had been held at first by Robert Vise in custody for the Crown, money grants from the estate being made from time to time to servants of the Crown. In 1440 the whole property was given by Henry VI to the new college of St. Mary, Eton. On 10 Nov., 1429, the bishop granted a licence to Hugh Grobham, one of the brethren of the hospital of St. John Bridgwater, to act as custodian of the goods of the priory, the hospital doubtless receiving some benefit from the estates of Stogursey (p. 75).

*Wells*.—The Hospital of St. John. On 15 Sept., 1438, the bishop granted a licence to the brethren of this hospital to elect a master or prior in place of John Berthelot lately deceased, and on 30 Jan., 1439, he issued a commission for the admission of Nicholas Cousin as prior. It appeared that there were only two brethren of the hospital besides Cousin, and the bishop provided him with this office and so confirmed the choice of the brothers (pp. 228, 233 and 234).



## THE BISHOP AND CHURCH DISCIPLINE AND DOCTRINE.

The Register gives us clear evidence that notwithstanding the great demands on his time, which his position as Treasurer and afterwards as Lord Chancellor made, the bishop was careful to uphold Church discipline and orthodox teaching, not only in the monasteries but also among the parochial clergy and their flock. The political unrest gave opportunity for freedom of speech and for attack on the Church. The dissension between the bishop of Winchester and his nephew the duke of Gloucester placed the Church in a difficult position, since Cardinal Beaufort had not yet received sanction for the honour which the pope had conferred on him. The law of England was quite clear and the pope's action against archbishop Chicheley on account of the Act of Provisors created resentment and strengthened the spirit of independence. If the Crown, and the duke as its protector in England, would not allow the publication of papal bulls, yet the national party would show clearly its orthodox zeal. If the bishop of Winchester was not working with the duke of Gloucester, yet he too was zealous for the faith and would stir up a crusade against the Bohemians. Meanwhile Lollardism, largely political and in favour of freedom of religious thought, and with it sorcery and a superstition which was almost heathen, kept showing itself in many places in the Southern Province. Bristol in the dioceses of Worcester, and Bedminster in the diocese of Bath and Wells, were well-known hiding places for those who cherished Lollardism in its political as well as in its religious side. On 23 April, 1425, which was probably bishop Stafford's first appearance in Convocation as bishop of Bath and Wells, the abbot of Chester and three Minorites, Wynchelsey, Hatton and Flemyng, werè brought up charged with heretical doctrines, and in the May session William Russell, a Minorite, and Richard Hoke, rector of Braybroke, were added to them. Russell's offence seems largely to have been one on the question of the payment of tithes. Such a question would certainly touch the Universities, and at the same session of Convocation

a petition was presented by the University of Oxford urging the Church through its bishops to take up this question, which was included in the larger one of false doctrine. (Wilkins, *Conc.*, vol. iii, p. 43.) In 1426 the bishop issues a mandate to his diocese forbidding a certain monk William to preach in it, and we may fairly assume that this was William Russell the Minorite, who had probably taken temporary refuge in Bedminster (p. 40). His case was again before Convocation this year, as it was in the following year when he made a rather specious recantation. Two years after, in March, 1429, the bishop sat in the Chapter House in Wells to hear the case of William Emayn of Bristol, and with him as advisers sat the dean of Wells and the abbot of Glastonbury. Emayn had given much trouble to the bishop of Lincoln and had been summoned on a charge of heresy five times. The charges against him are stated fully in the register, and as Emayn once more recanted, his absolution is formally entered as a record against him (p. 76). In 1434 the bishop hands over to the secular authorities Walter Taylour or Walter de Wiveliscombe, who seems to have been suspected of heresy and who was contumacious and had incurred excommunication, since he had not appeared before the bishop when summoned by him (p. 164).

Again in 1441 he receives the abjuration of two Lollards, John Jurdan of Bristol and Thomas Oke, a brewer, of Taunton. They were both admonished by the bishop before the dean and canons in the Chapter House in Wells, and the bishop sends out a letter to the archdeacons urging enquiry and the suppression of false doctrine.

On 24 August, 1431, the bishop issues from Dogmersfield a long charge which he desires to have read out first of all in the cathedral church at Wells and through the archdeacon to be addressed to all the parochial clergy of the diocese against sorcery, lot drawing, incantations and other superstitious customs which he describes as observances and superstitions of pagans (p. 104), and in the camera of his manor house at Wokey he deals, on 25 April, 1438, with the case of Agnes

Hancock of Montacute. The case had been remitted to him by his commissary canon John Stevenes. Hancock dealt in charms and claims a power of discerning sicknesses, their outbreak and the way to heal them. At Wokey two other women were added to Hancock, Joanna Bruther, wife of John Bruther of Churton and Alice Bell, wife of John Bell also of Churton. They were all accused of the black art, of having resort to lot drawing, incantation and other superstitious actions. All these women appear to have abjured and professed an orthodox faith and were discharged with a caution (p. 225).

Whether it was especially necessary for the diocese or part of the reference urged by the Council of Basel, about the month of August, 1431, the bishop issues a pastoral against the marriage of the clergy, referring to the Constitutions of Otto and Ottobon and stating that he would suspend and remove from his cure any priest who did not put away such women, whom he officially designates as concubines (p. 188).

Four years afterwards, 21 March, 1435, he put forth a letter to the dean of Wells and the archdeacons of the diocese on the religious education of the people. This document is worthy of careful study, for it represents a very complete scheme of education such as was capable of being adopted and carried out by the parish priests of Somerset and the many chantry priests in the larger places who already were taking up the post of village schoolmaster. He urges that the fourteen articles of the Faith, the Ten Commandments and the two precepts of the Gospel, the seven works of mercy and the discipline of the five senses, the seven deadly sins, which with all their issues are to be avoided, the seven capital virtues and the seven sacraments of Grace should be enforced, taught and preached about in every church in the diocese four times each year and that without curious subtlety as to their meaning. The instruction was to be given in the English tongue and in such a way as the people could best understand it, and to show what the bishop meant he enlarges on this scheme of religious education, his pastoral being now in English and no longer in Latin.

Other schemes for teaching the truths of the Christian faith had been put forth in other dioceses at different times, but this put forth by bishop Stafford is one of the fullest and clearest in the records of the English Church. If Lollardism and sorcery and witchcraft were to be checked, the best antidote was sound religious education and a scheme such as is here put forth could not fail to be efficacious and useful (pp. 173 and 180).

The effort of the bishop, however, for the good estate of his diocese was doomed to failure unless it was followed up and acted on by a resident clergy, and two incidents in the Register show how insistent the bishop was to enforce residence. In 1436 the rector of Long Sutton, John Touker, was presented to the bishop by the patrons of the benefice, the abbot and convent of Athelney, for absence from his parish. He had failed in his duty "*ad partes longinquasse transferendo et vagando*," and his church and parishioners had thus been left desolate. The bishop deprived him of his benefice and in January of the following year institutes a successor to him (pp. 194 and 202).

Similar action was taken in 1440 with John Smyth, the rector of Lufton. Smyth appears to have given the bishop some trouble, his admonitions had been ignored, and so in the Chapter House at Wells the bishop's commissary, canon Stevenes, formally deprived him of his benefice for "absenting himself in places far distant from his church" and taking no notice of the monitions that had been directed to him. In April the bishop institutes John Wellys as his successor (pp. 248, 256, and 270).

#### THE DEANS OF WELLS DURING BISHOP STAFFORD'S EPISCOPATE.

The appointment of John Stafford dean of Wells to the bishopric of Bath and Wells vacated the deanery, which he had only held for a year and eight months. On 1 March, 1425, by advice of the Council, of which John Stafford as Treasurer of England was a member, the Crown appointed to the prebendal stall of Combe XIV in the Cathedral Church of Wells,

John Forest clerk (p. 270, *C.P.R. H. VI*, 1422-1429). The new canon could hardly have been installed before the promotion of dean Stafford gave rise to an election to the vacant post. So the petition for permission to proceed to such an election was drawn up in the Chapter House on 20 July, 1425, and canons Hody and Shelford, the precentor and the chancellor, was deputed to carry it to the new bishop and to demand licence to elect. This was granted on August 1. The bishop was staying in London at his inn in the parish of St. Clement Danes, and on Nov. 19 the representation of the chapter again appeared and the bishop confirmed their election and ordered the necessary deeds to be drawn up for the admission and installation of the new dean. The choice of the chapter was John Forest, the latest admitted of the canons, the new prebendary of Combe XIV (*cf.* No. 932). John Forest was then archdeacon of Surrey and vicar general for Henry Beaufort, bishop of Winchester. He cannot but have been a friend of bishop Stafford the Treasurer of England, and though in the documents recording his appointment no mention is made of external influence, it cannot be doubted that the Council had exerted its influence in favour of the archdeacon.

John Forest first appears in the public records on 6 Nov., 1413, where he is described as prebendary of Banbury in the cathedral church of Lincoln (*C.P.R. Hen. V*, 1413-1416, p. 145), and in the next year, 1414, he receives from the Crown, 13 August, a grant of the archdeaconry of Surrey. (*Ibid.*, p. 236.) In 1417, 20 Nov., he is described as archdeacon of Surrey and vicar general of Henry bishop of Winchester (*C.P.R. Hen. V*, 1416-1422, p. 126) and on 2 May, 1419, he is also described as a canon of Lichfield as well as a canon of Lincoln. (*Ibid.*, p. 217.) Meanwhile the *Calendar of Papal Letters* gives us further information concerning him, and the indulgence he secured from Rome proves the influence which he was able to exert. He, like bishop Stafford, was the son of an unmarried man and an unmarried woman. On 16 Feb., 1418, we find him as a canon of Lincoln appealing to Rome for its favour. He was clearly not yet in holy orders. It was not his first application

to Rome. Already he had dispensation to be promoted to all, even holy orders, and to hold a benefice even with a cure. In 1411 he is described as having obtained the church of Middleton Stoney in the diocese of Lincoln and permission to hold two other benefices or canonries, and having resigned Middleton he had obtained the benefice of Wheathampsted and the prebend of Banbury in the church of Lincoln and permission to hold two others benefices and to resign them when he pleased. (*C.P.L.*, vol. vi. p. 248.) Now he is described as archdeacon of Surrey, canon of Lichfield and canon of Southwell, and he is dispensed to hold any number of benefices with or without cure and to resign or exchange them as often as he pleases. (*C.P.L.*, vol. vij. p. 40.) This indult is repeated again on 16 Feb., 1423 (*C.P.L.*, vol. vij. p. 256), and four years after he had become dean of Wells he receives permission for five years to visit the archdeaconry of Surrey by deputy and to receive procurations in ready money not exceeding 30 silver Tournois a day. (*C.P.L.*, vol. viij. 4 Dec., 1429. p. 172.) He kept the archdeaconry to the day of his death.

During the twenty-one years that dean Forest held the deanery he seems to have been very constant in his residence. In 1427 we find him with the Wells Chapter confirming bishop Stafford's lease to William Baroun of his manor of Compton Bishop (*Wells D. and C. Rep.*, vol. i, p. 462) and the Wells Charters seem to show that he was in Wells in 1429, 1430, 1438, 1440 and 1445. (*Cf. Wells D. and C. Rep.*, vol. ii, Charters 591, 593, 594-624). In 1435 he took part in the proceedings against John Grene, vicar of St. Cuthbert's, Wells, for arrears of £10 of yearly rent to the Dean and Chapter. In 1433, Richard Harewell, who was John Grene's predecessor as vicar of St. Cuthbert's and also prebendary of Litton and canon residentiary, had made a gift for the maintenance of the cathedral choristers and tabelarii of the yearly value of £20, and of which the vicar of St. Cuthbert's was trustee, and this gift was confirmed to the cathedral choir in 1434. The vicar of St. Cuthbert's made no defence and the arrears were allowed as due, and the gift confirmed in the king's court. (*De Banco Rolls, Nich.*

*Tem. 14 Hen. VI*, roll cccxl; *Wells D. and C. Rep.*, vol. i, p. 391.)

In 1433 we find dean Forest and the Chapter negotiating for and obtaining a grant from bishop Stafford of a gate and free ingress to a close of the Dean and Chapter on the south side of the choir called the Camery and also free ingress and egress through the bishop's gates at Kewerbridge and Tor Hill, and the right to carry materials for the church through them. (*Ibid.*, vol. i, p. 465.)

In 1435 the Crown acknowledges a debt of £66 13s. 4d. due to dean J. Forest for money lent for the needs of the country. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, 1422-1429, p. 467.)

In 1430, in the absence of the bishop, he acted as one of his vicars general, a clear proof of his regular residence in Wells. (No. 267.)

During his later years his health seems to have made it impossible to act as dean, and 12 Oct., 1444, archbishop Stafford and bishop Beckington his successor seem to have appointed four canons to act as his coadjutors (*Ang. Suc.*, vol. i, p. 589), and on 25 March, 1446, he died. The expenses of the distribution at his funeral appear in the Escheator Accounts, 1445-1446. (*Cf. Wells D. and C. Rep.*, vol. ii, p. 74.)

John Delabere, who endeavoured by a papal provision to obtain the deanery of Wells on the vacancy caused by the death of John Forest, appears in the official records of the time as Delabere, Dalberd, Daleber, Dalebere and de la Vere. We first hear of him as warden or rector of the parish church of Tomeston (Tormaston, Gloucestershire). On 7 Sept., 1423, he obtains papal sanction on the ground of the impoverishment of his benefice to reduce the number of priests attached to the parish church from five, as ordered by the endowment charter, to three. (*C.P.L.*, vol. vij. p. 283.) Two years after, 3 Dec., 1425, he obtains from the same source licence to hold two benefices and to exchange them when he desired. He is described as having lately acquired the church of St. Martin's, Oxford, and as holding a canonry at Hereford, and he is also said to be of noble birth. (*Ibid.*, p. 470.) This does not seem to

have been a sufficiently definite licence for him, and on 8 March, 1427, he obtains a repetition of it as a licence for him to hold two incompatible benefices. (*Ibid.*, p. 532.) Our next account of him comes from the State Papers. On 5 Nov., 1431, he is described as king's almoner and he is ordered to make enquiry as to concealed deodands, and when possible to levy the same, since deodands formed a portion of the means for the royal almsgiving. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, 1429-1436, p. 182.) On 1 Feb., 1433, he is described as late almoner to the king and he receives a grant of the deanery of Tamworth, and the next year, 13 May, 1434, he obtains a licence to exchange the deanery of Tamworth for the prebendal stall in Exeter, which had been held by William Newport. (*Ibid.*, pp. 296 and 347.) Four years later, 15 Feb., 1438, he is described as a king's clerk and he receives for his good service to the Crown the alien priory of St. James, Exeter, to keep and to govern in payment for sums of money due to him when he was king's almoner. The exact steps which were taken to obtain this grant seem, however, to have been irregular, for on 3 July of the same year, 1438, a commission was appointed to enquire into the conditions when this alien priory came into the hands of Delabere. This priory had apparently been granted to Walter Collis 1 May, 1439, and hence the necessity for the enquiry. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, 1436-1441, pp. 151, 201 and 255.) The next year Delabere obtains, 3 April, 1440, from the Crown the church of Aveton Gifford, in the diocese of Exeter, and in the autumn (5 Nov., 1440) he is appointed king's almoner, though indeed he is described as such six months earlier and had been acting in that capacity for two or three years previously. (*Ibid.*, pp. 383 and 568.) The next year, 27 July, 1441, he obtains a release from the Crown for all debts, moneys and accounts which the king might have against him. (*Ibid.*, p. 561.) In the autumn of this year, 28 Oct., 1441, Delabere obtained a grant of the prebend in St. Stephen's free chapel at Westminster which had become vacant by the death of Thomas Southwell, and in the next year, 4 Aug., 1442, he obtained from the Crown the grant of all the movable goods left by his prede-



cessor Southwell. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, 1441-1446, pp. 3 and 7.) Two years after, 15 Oct., 1443, he secured the Wardenship of the Hospital of St. Katharine's by the Tower of London, and in 1444 he obtained, 5 Feb., a grant of £80 a year out of the revenues of the port of Southampton because he "has secretly done certain works of devotion and alms," and on 5 June a grant of £80 a year out of the lordships of Cotyngnam and Bourne during the minority of the heir of John, late duke of Somerset, and on 18 July he is appointed Avener or Harbour Master of Plymouth and the harbours of Cornwall and £80 a year which was due to the king from Thomas Trefrye. (*Ibid.*, pp. 206, 236, 268 and 274.) The three money grants may, however, be in substitution, the one to succeed the other when it had run out and not cumulative.

We now come to his great effort to obtain the deanery of Wells, and we must carefully notice as far as we can the steps taken by him and by the chapter of Wells. On 12 Jan., 1442, he is described in the Papal Letters as canon of Salisbury, a bachelor of canon law and Great Almoner of the Household of the King, and he obtained provision for one or two benefices wont to be assigned to secular clerks in the gift of the bishops, prior and deans and chapters of Winchester, Lincoln and Exeter. (*C.P.L.*, vol. viij. p. 257.) For the bishop and chapter of Lincoln the pope appears to have substituted the bishop of Bath and Wells and the chapter of Wells, but there is no evidence of this change except in a later document (23 May, 1443) which upholds the claim of Delabere and attempts to answer the objections of the canons of Wells. They had claimed that the papal provision on which Delabere relied did not and could not extend to a major dignity, even decanal, of Wells or Exeter and that Delabere was not such a person as the statutes of their church required, and that papal letters and provisions could not take effect in their church, nor were the chapter bound to obey such papal mandates or admit anyone as dean. They also put forward a question as to the identity of Delabere with the man who from pope Martin V had as de Labere obtained his provision. Eugenius IV, however, confirms to

Delabere the deanery of Wells and calls upon the executors to proceed to carry out his orders. (*C.P.L.*, vol. viij, p. 312.) The deanery, however, was not vacant. Dean Forest did not die till 25 March, 1446, and Delabere was making sure of a post which, owing to the failing health of dean Forest, was likely soon to fall in. So for three years Delabere was kept waiting, and we may be sure was making certain of the support of Henry VI, whenever the opportunity would need it. Four days after the death of dean Forest, 29 March, 1446, Henry VI wrote to bishop Bekynton asking him to give the deanery of Wells to John Delabere, his High Almoner. (*Camden Soc.*, vol. lxxxvi, p. 57.) On 30 May, 1446, Delabere made his position safe by obtaining from the Crown pardon for what he had done in the papal curia, and a confirmation of a licence which had been granted to him ten days before to petition the aid of the pope in support of his claim to the deanery. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, 1441-1446, p. 447.) The next step was taken by the canons of Wells. They petitioned the king to support the royal foundation of the cathedral church of Wells and protect them against Delabere and his claim, "so that your sayd church be not disherited in your tyme by the sayd provision." This came before the Council in the Star Chamber on 11 July and the reply was that the king would be protector and defender of the church of Wells and of its rights and customs and is content that they would proceed to the election of the dean then in the accustomed manner and form, and he wished that their election should be free. (*H.M.C. Calendar of Dean and Chapter Rep.*, vol. ii, p. 675.) Four days after, 16 July, 1446, Delabere obtained a licence from the Crown to sue by his proctors for the deanery of Wells, to which he had been provided by the popes, and at the same time a specific pardon for so doing. (*C.P.R. Hen. VI*, 1441-1446, p. 442.) This action he must already have begun, for on 19 July, 1446, a commission was appointed by Eugenius IV, consisting of the bishops of Concordia, London and Methone to make provision to Delabere of the deanery of Wells. (*C.P.L.*, vol. viii, p. 308.) The canons of Wells, however, were deter-

mined to fight and were prosecuting him in the archbishop's consistory court, and on 3 Oct., 1446, Delabere again obtained a confirmation from the pope of his claims to the deanery. The document gives a somewhat confused statement of his position and of what benefices he had held. It mentions the wardenship of Tormaston and the rectory of St. Martin's, Oxford, and adds also that he had held the church of Oundle in Lincolnshire, the archdeaconry of Surrey and the major dignity of the deanery of Wells, of which he could not obtain possession. (*C.P.L.*, vol. viii, p. 273.) The Chapter had meanwhile proceeded to the election of Nicholas Carent, 22 Aug., 1446, one of the canons, as dean, and were determined to resist the efforts of the papal nominee. The last document we possess is a monition from the pope to the canons of Wells which describes the resistance which Delabere found insuperable. It is dated 13 Nov., 1446. The commission appointed in July had been at work and the prior of St. Mary's Overy as papal executor had excommunicated John Reynolds the subdean, and eleven canons by name, and two priest vicars. He had sent Michael Carbonel, an Exeter priest, to proclaim the excommunication and to prohibit them from electing anyone else as dean. Carbonel, however, was prevented from affixing the excommunication on the church doors and threatened with personal violence. The canons had even arrested and imprisoned him and had elected Nicholas Carent. The pope now calls on Carent to withdraw and give up possession of the deanery to Delabere under pain of suspension, excommunication and interdict. Carent, however, remained in possession, and on 19 Nov., 1447, John Delabere was consecrated bishop of St. Davids.

A contemporary, Dr. Thomas Gascoigne of Oriel College, Oxford, in his *Theological Dictionary* or *Liber Veritatum* (Roger's *Loci e libro veritatum*, 1881), refers to Delabere as an instance of the decadent condition of the Church in the reign of Henry VI. On p. 25 he says "Novi enim unum hominem valde inhabilem ad sacerdotium qui dedit mille marcas et quadrigentas pro una provisione sibi acquisita et concessa a

papa Eugenio et pro executione ejusdem provisionis in uno decanater et tamen, non obstante provisione, et eciem regis sui mandato, qui mandavit capitulo excommunicationem fieri, non optinuit nec habuit eundem decanatum et pluribus pecuniis effusis, idem inhabilis factus est episcopus, et dimisit jus suum ad illud decanatum, et ille qui electus fuit in decanum, qui non fuit provisus per papam, factus est ibidem decanus."

Gascoigne returns to this scandal under the title Rector et Episcopus (p. 200) and gives us this further information: "et tum cum manu forti in eadem cathedrali ei restiterunt ne intraret in ecclesiam. dicentes se et capitulum illius ecclesiæ habere licentiam papæ Romani ut eligerent sibi ipsis decanum." (Cf. Gairdner, *Lollardy and the Reformation*, vol. i, p. 251.)

Gascoigne has much to say against Delabere as bishop of St. Davids with which we have nothing to do. He says, however (p. 356): "et iste est episcopus De la Bere qui male fuit provisus in decanatum ecclesiæ Wellensis per papam Nicholaum quintum, invite capitulo illius ecclesiæ, sed non ibi receptus fuit eo quod timuit mortem suam ibidem violentam."

Stafford episcopus

ab 1425

ad 1442.

# REGISTER OF BISHOP JOHN.



1425.

Vol. 1.

Registrum reverendi in Christo patris et domini domini J. Stafford Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi qui consecratus fuit in ecclesia Fratrum Predicatorum Londoniense die Dominica videlicet in festo Pentecoste die xxvij<sup>o</sup> mensis Maii anno domini millesimo ccccxxv<sup>o</sup> pontificatus sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini domini Martini divina providencia quinti anno octavo indicione tercia. A quo die anni patris registrum est inceptum.

June 5. 1425. The bishop's inn at London.

1. A commission.

The bishop being at present much occupied with affairs of State which will necessitate his absence from his diocese deposes Master John Hody, precentor of his cathedral church of Wells, to be his vicar general in spiritualities.

2. The same day and place. He deposes Richard, bishop of Innis Scattery, to be bishop suffragan in the diocese.

Fol. 14.

3. June 30. He appoints Master John Storthwayt, bachelor of both laws, canon and succentor of his cathedral church of Wells, as his principal official.

[*Imperfect.*]

Fol. 2.

4. Registrum reverendi etc. Johannis etc. extra suas civitates et diocesim in remotis agentis quoad expedita in diocese Bathoniense et Wellense per venerabilem virum Magistrum Johannem Hody precentorem ecclesie cathedralis Wellensis

prefati reverendi patris vicarium in spiritualibus generalem in-<sup>1425</sup>  
ceptum . . . die mensis . . . anno domini mccccxv  
anno consecracionis dicti reverendi patris primo indiccione tercia  
pontificatus sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini  
Martini Divina providencia pope quinti anno octavo.

5. April 24. 1426. Crukern. The vicar general admitted  
Sir John Benet, chaplain, to the perpetual chantry of St. Mary in  
the parish church of Crukern at the presentation of Anne countess of Devon.

6. Those ordained at Taunton, in the parish church of  
St. Mary there, by the venerable father Richard, bishop of Innis  
Scattery, bishop suffragan, on the vigil of the Holy Trinity, to  
wit 2 June, 1425;—

Acolytes.

William Wyther, William Sumpter, William Sa , John  
, John Drinig, all of the diocese of Bath and Wells.

Subdeacons.

William Sadeler alias Holewey, on a title of the priory of  
Taunton.

John Webber, on a title of the convent of Dunkeswell of the  
diocese of Exeter.

John Crokke on a title of the convent of Berlych.

William Delver of the island of Gurnese of the diocese of  
Coutances by letters dimissory of his diocesan on a title  
of [Nicole] Coquerell, bailiff and locum tenens of . . .  
[Altesfordie] in the island aforesaid, to all holy orders.

William Chamberleyn, on a title of the convent of Ferd of  
the diocese of Exeter.

Richard Lang, on a like title.

Walter Mitherway of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters Fol. 2*l*.  
dimissory on a title of the convent of Keynesham.

Robert Redehede on a title of the convent of Shirborn.

Hugh Benet, on a title of the convent of Montacute.

Henry Basket, on a title of the said convent of Shirborn.

Richard Andrew, on a title of the house of St. John the  
Baptist, Wells.

Thomas Turneham, on a title of the convent of Cleeve.

1425.

## Deacons.

- John Forthyngton on a title of the house of St. John the Baptist, Wells, etc.  
 John Lovell on a title of the convent of Dunkeswell of the diocese of Exeter.  
 John Rook, on a title of the convent of Taunton to all etc.  
 Brothers Henry Pawl and John Crukhorn canons regular of Berlych priory.  
 Brothers Richard Gleene and Robert Cullyng canons regular of Taunton priory.  
 Brothers John Dygon and John Penforde, canons regular of Bruton priory.  
 Brother Thomas Bone, canon regular of Sprawlesmede priory.  
 William Kyng, on a title of the nuns of St. Mary Magdalen, Bristol, of the diocese of Worcester.

## Priests.

- Brothers John Porter and John Hampton, canons regular of Berlych priory.  
 Brothers William Sampford and Robert Uffolmp, monks of Dunkeswell of the Cistercian order, licensed by privilege.  
 Brothers John Hendre and John Pole, of the order of the Friar Preachers of Ivelchestre.  
 William Dynne on a title of the house of St. John the Baptist, Wells, etc.  
 John Bonevyle of the diocese of Salisbury by letters dimissory, on a title of the convent of Mylton of the said diocese.  
 Ralph Orchard, on a title of the house of St. John, Wells.  
 Nicholas Cockys, on a title of the convent of Montacute, etc.  
 Robert Spencer of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory, on a title of the convent of Middelton.  
 John Hyrcy, perpetual vicar in the cathedral church of Salisbury, by letters dimissory, on a title of his stall.

Fol. 3.

7. July 19. 1425. Wells. John Hody, precentor of the cathedral church of Wells and vicar general, by authority of



Jordan, bishop of Albano, the pope's penitentiary, dated at Rome <sup>1425.</sup> at Sancta Maria Major iiij non. Octobris, 6 Martin V, granted to John Mere, clerk, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, born of a single man and a single woman, a dispensation in respect of his illegitimacy.

8. July 20. Wells. The said vicar general instituted Sir John Towker, chaplain, in the vicarage of the parish church of Chilterne, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

9. Venerabili et circumspecto viro Magistro Johanni Hody etc. vester humilis et devotus Johannes Odelond in decretis bacallarius, commissarius vester ad infrascriptum unacum honesto viro Magistro Johanne Bernard, in decretis bacallario, cum illa clausula conjunctim et divisim legitime deputatus, omnimodas obedienciam et reverencia tanto viro debitas cum honore. Literas vestras reverendas ultimo die mensis Junii anno domini infrascripto cum ea qua decuit reverencia recepi sub eo qui sequitur verborum tenore. Johannes Hody etc. Magistris Johanni Bernard et Johanni Odelond etc. salutem in Auctore Salutis. Presentarunt nobis Johannes Juyn capitalis baro Scaccarii domini regis, Umfridus Stafford, miles, Thomas Stawell, miles, Johannes Warre, Hugo Pyke, Hugo Cary, Robertus Gefferey, Johannes Bavent, Willelmus Gaskoyne de Brokley et Martinus Jacob dominum Robertum Bertlot presbiterum Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad perpetuam cantariam curatam et fundatam infra manerium de Newton Plecy per liberam et simplicem resignacionem domini Willelmi Style ultimi presbiteri ejusdem vacantem et ad suam presentacionem spectantem ut dicunt. Quocirca vobis conjunctim et divisim committimus et mandamus quatinus vocatis in hac parte de jure vocandis de vacacione hujusmodi qualiter videlicet et a quo tempore incepit vacare quis sit verus patronus aut qui sunt veri patroni ejusdem etc. per rectores vicarios et laicos decanatus illius in quo dicta cantaria consistit in expectato loci pleno capitulo coram vobis presentes et juratos diligenter et fideliter inquiratis et si hujusmodi inquisicio pro dictis presentantibus et presentato faciat in hac parte quod extunc ad instituendum et induci demandandum presentatum memoratum vobis ut premittitur committimus vices nostras. Et

1425.

quid reperitis et feceritis in premissis nos hujusmodi inquisitionis negocio debito expedito certificetis per literas vestras clausas sigillo vestri officii impresso et pendente et eorum per quos hujusmodi inquisicio capta fuerit sigillis pendentibus consignatas ipsorum nomina et cognomina et harum seriem continentes. Data Wellie in crastino apostolorum Petri et Pauli 1425. Post quarum quidem literarum receptionem vocatis primitus in hac parte vocandis de jure tam de vacacione dicte perpetue cantarie jureque nunc presentancium ac meritis presentati ad eandem quam ceteris articulis in dictis literis vestris contentis in hujusmodi fieri consuetis per discretos viros dominos Willelmum Hampstede perpetuum vicarium ecclesie parochialis de North Peder-ton, Ricardum Broun rectorem ecclesie parochialis de Gotehurst Johannem Jolyf rectorem ecclesie parochialis de Culve, Robertum Lovcok vicarium ecclesie parochialis de Leng, Johannem Yoe capellanum perpetue cantarie Beate Marie Virginis de Pederton predicta, dominum Johannem Synette capellanum perpetue cantarie de Cyreston, et Thomam Popham armigerum de parochia de Pederton predicta Johannem Elys de eadem, Willelmum Jordayn de Mounketon, Johannem Payn de Pederton predicta Hugonem Skathelok, Robertum Parle, Johannem Andesey et Willelmum Godehyne, laicos de eadem parochia ac decanatu de Bruggewater, in quo dicta cantaria consistit, dicteque cantarie de Newton viciniore et noticiam in premissis habentes coram nobis presentes et juratos diligentem fecimus inquisitionem pariter et fidelem. Qui dicunt quod dicta cantaria de Newton Plecy jam vacat et vacare incepit die Dominica Prima Quadragesime ultimo jam preterita per liberam et simplicem resignacionem domini Willelmi Style ultimi capellani ejusdem qui eadem die Dominica predicta eandem cantaria ut prefertur resignavit et quod presentantes hac vice sunt veri patroni ejusdem. Et quod dominus Edmundus comes de la Marche ultimo eundem dominum Willelmum Style presentavit ad eandem eo quod ista vice jus presentandi ad eundem comitem Marchie pertinuit jure hereditario alterna vice. Et dicunt quod jus presentandi ad eandem cantariam hac vice pertinet jure pure donacionis et feoffamenti terrarum dicti manerii de Newton cum suis pertinentiis unacum advocacione dicte cantariae per quosdam Willelmum Powlet de Melcomb, dominum Robertum Burgh capellanum, et

Hugonem Kene, veros [patronos] ejusdem manerii de Newton<sup>1425.</sup> hereditario jure adquisicionis, eisdem nunc presentantibus facte, ad dictos pertinet presentantes Et quod dicta cantaria non est pensionaria neque litigiosa nec alicujus taxe set est estimacionis quadraginta solidorum et est porcionaria eo quod priorissa et conventus de Bokelond debent annuatim percipere de quodam campo vocato Colverfeld de Newton predicta unum plastrum plenum cujuscumque generis bladum crescencium in eodem campo nomine porcionis ab eadem cantaria per compositionem inde factam, ut audiverunt ex relatu fide dignorum; et quod non obviat aliquid nec obest presentantibus nec presentato antedicto de canonicis institutis: et quod dictus presentatus est liber, legitimus, honestus, et ydoneus, bone vite ac conversacionis honeste, in ordine presbiteratus constitutus, etatis xxvj annorum et amplius, meritisque condignis ac sufficienter literatus nec est alibi beneficiatus. Et quod dicta cantaria est curata certos habens parochianos et capellanus dicte cantarie qui pro tempore fuerit tenetur residere ibidem apud Newton. Et quia per hujusmodi inquisicioem, ut premititur, per me factum non inveni aliquid de canonicis institutis quod dictis presentantibus aut presentate antedicto obviaret seu obsesset set eandem inquisicionem pro eis in omnibus juxta juris exigenciam facientem ideo pfatum Robertum Bertlot presbiterum ad eandem cantariam in forma juris admisi ipsumque dominum Robertum vice et auctoritate vestris institui canonice in eadem cum suis juribus et pertinenciis universis ac eundem Robertum Bertlot in corporalem et realem possessionem ejusdem inducendum fore et induci demandavi. Quamquidem inquisicionem unacum presenti meo certificatorio clausam sigillo mei officii videlicet officialitatis archidiaconatus Tantonie impresso et pendente et sigillis eorum per quos hujusmodi inquisicio capta fuit vestre reverende discrecioni transmittito patentem consignatam. Data in ecclesia parochiali de Leng quarto die mensis Julii anno domini supradicto.

10. 1425, Aug. 17. Wells. The vicar-general instituted Fol. 4.  
Hugh Huyton, clerk, in the person of John Serle, clerk, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Corston, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Chichestre; at the presentation of

1425. Robert Maynard and Thomas Hertescote, true patrons for this turn as proved by inquisition.

11. Oct. 11. Cathedral church of Wells. He instituted John Boule, clerk, submitting himself to his ordination in respect of a pension to be assigned to the outgoing rector, as rector of the parish church of Kylmyngton, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Clere, incapable through age and infirmity; at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury, who consent to the ordination in respect of the assignment of a pension.

Fol. 4d. Assignment by the vicar general to the outgoing rector of a pension of 12 marks for life. Dated at Wells, 16 October, 1425.

Consent of the patronesses Margaret Stourton, abbess, and the convent, of Shaftesbury, to the assignment of the pension. Dated in their chapter house at Shaftesbury, 1 September, 1425.

12. A dispensation by the vicar general, by authority, by special mandate of the pope, of the aforesaid Jordan, bishop of Albano, dated at Rome, apud Sanctos Apostolos, vij id. Februarii, 8 Martin V, to William Chapman, acolyte, of the diocese, born of a priest and single woman, who at another time obtained a dispensation from the pope to all minor orders, that notwithstanding his illegitimacy he may be advanced to all holy orders which the benefice he has since obtained calls for. Dated at Wells, 19 November, 1425.

Fol. 5.

13. Nov. 20. Wells. The vicar general instituted Sir John Holcote, priest, as rector of the parish church of Shepton Beauchamp; at the presentation of Alexander Lynde, esquire.

14. Nov 25. Wells. He instituted Sir John Shotell, priest, as rector of the parish church of Cricheston; at the presentation of lady Joan, lady of Holdich of the diocese of Exeter.

15. Dec. 8. Wells. He instituted Sir Henry Modeford, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Greynton; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury.

16. Dec. 13. Wells. He instituted Sir John Strang, priest, <sup>1425.</sup> submitting himself to his ordination in respect of a pension to the outgoing vicar, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Puryton, vacant by the resignation of Master John Burny on account of old age and infirmity; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Goldclyf, of the diocese of Llandaff, who consent to the assignment of such pension.

Assignment to the said retiring vicar of a pension of Fol. 5*d*. 10 marks for life. Dated at Wells, Dec. 15, 1425.

Consent of the patrons to the assignment. Dated in their chapter house, Dec. 13, 1425.

17. Dec. 21. Wells. The vicar general, in furtherance of a commission of Edmund, bishop of Exeter, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Pittes, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Littelham of his diocese, and Richard Halswell, rector of the parish church of Stanley, examined into and approved of such exchange, and instituted John Pittes in the person of Master John Boghore, clerk, his proctor, to the church of Stanley, at the presentation of William Powlet of Melcomb, and on receipt of his oath of obedience commanded his induction by the archdeacon of Taunton or his official, or failing these the rector of Kedesford. Consequent upon this, he instituted Richard Halswell to the church of Littelham, vacant by the resignation of the said proctor in the name of his lord, at the presentation of the dean and chapter of the cathedral church of Exeter reserving his induction and canonical obedience to his diocesan.

18. 1425-26, Jan 8. Wells. The vicar general instituted Fol. 6. Sir Richard Whitehorn, priest, as rector of the parish church of Shepton Beauchamp, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Holcote; at the presentation of Alexander Lynde, esquire.

19. Feb. 28. Wells. He admitted Sir Stephen William *alias* Willym, priest, to the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Compton Dando, vacant by the death of Sir Nicholas Ferell; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath; and instituted the said Sir Philip (*sic*) William *alias* Willym, sworn on the Gospels to continual and personal residence there, according to the legatine constitutions, as vicar.

1426.

20. March 7. Wells. He instituted Sir William Yonge, priest, as rector of the parish church of Fresscheford, vacant by the death of Sir Philip Harpere; at the presentation of John Pederton, esquire.

21. Those ordained at Wells in the parish church of St. Cuthbert there by the venerable father lord Richard, bishop of Innis Scattery, suffragan of the reverend father himself, on the Saturday on which is chanted the office *Sicientes*, to wit 16 March, 1426.

## Acolytes.

Nicholas Payn, vicar of the choir of Wells.	}	Of the diocese of Bath and Wells.
Thomas Mere.		
Thomas Hardyng.		
Richard Hawkyn.		
Ralph Cavvyle.		
Richard Bray.		
John Nete.		
John Northfolke.		
William Henton.		
Thomas Hynde.		
John Chapman.	}	Of the diocese of Bath and Wells.
Friar Henry Steppe of the order of the Friars Minors of Bruggewater.		
Geoffrey Richard of the diocese of Llandaff by letters dimissory.		
John Morys.		
John Wodeward.		
John Barge.		
John Hamme.		
William Gylett.		
John Whyte.		
William Forster.		
Brother Gerard Boote of the Carthusian order of Henton.		

## Subdeacons.

1426.

Ralph Hyllng, on a title of the convent of Taunton [orders].

Walter Hogges, on a title of the convent of Kanyngton.

Master John Osborne of the diocese of Worcester, by letters dimissory on a title of the convent of Keynesham.

William Wyther, on a title of the convent of Forde of the diocese of Exeter.

John Baron of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory on a title of the convent of Polton of the same diocese.

John Mersshe, on a title of the convent of Bruton.

Fol. 6a.

Brother John Boote of the Carthusian order of Henton.

John Hamund, on a title of the convent of Shirborn of the diocese of Salisbury.

Richard Cotyn of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory on a title of the convent of Kyngton.

John Howell of the diocese of Llandaff, by letters dimissory on a title of John Kemys, esquire, lord of Derham and of Aston, and Margery, his wife, of the diocese of Worcester.

Nicholas Payne, vicar of the choir of the cathedral church, on a title of his stall.

## Deacons.

William Grove, on a title of the priory of Poghley of the diocese of Salisbury

John Pownall of the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, by letters dimissory on a title of the house or hospital of St. Nicholas near Salisbury.

Brothers William Bonour, John Lamport and Robert Burnet, monks of the cathedral church of Bath.

Richard Freman of the diocese of St. Davids, by letters dimissory on a title of the priory of St. John, Brecon.

Edmund Motorushede of the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of St. Mary, Combermere, of the same diocese.

John Langley, on a title of the prior and convent of Berlich.

John Howell, on a title of the convent of Taunton.

1426.

Ralph Dawryn' of the diocese of Exeter, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of Tarent of the diocese of Salisbury....

Master John Cornyssh of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of Rewley by Oxford of the diocese of Lincoln.

Friar John de Aquis of the order of the Friars Minors of Bruggewater.

William Sumpter of the diocese of Bath and Wells, on a title of the master and brethren of the hospital of St. John, Wells.

Geoffrey Caron of the diocese of St. David's, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of Strata Florida.

Henry Yerde, on a title of the abbot and convent of Keynesham.

John William of the diocese of Llandaff, by letters dimissory on a title of William ap Davyth, esquire, lord of Mersshfeld of the said diocese.

Stephen Goodeman, on a title of the convent of St. Mary Magdalen, Bristol, of the diocese of Worcester.

John Cake of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory on a title of the house of Ivy church of the same diocese.

John Hayne, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of Malmesbury.

Master John Sparhawke, rector of the parish church of Chalvedon Harang of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory on a title of his benefice.

Brother John Shirborn, monk of Shirborn of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory.

Richard Glyde of the said diocese, by letters dimissory on a title of the priory of Eston of the same diocese.

Friar John Parle of the order of the Friars Preachers of Ilchester.

Morgan ap Rees ap Yeuan of the diocese of St. David's, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of St. Mary, Calley, of the said diocese.

John Boule, rector of the church of Culmyngton, on a title of his benefice.



## Priests.

1426.

- Master William Fulford of the diocese of Exeter, on a title of his church of Norton near Taunton.
- Brother Richard Gleene canon of the priory of Taunton.
- William Lohier of the island of Gurnesey of the diocese of Coutances, by letters dimissory of his diocesan on a title of James Coquerell, bailiff of the lieutenant of the duke of Bedford in that island.
- John Crokker, on a title of the convent of Berlick.
- John Fordyngton, on a title of the master and brethren of Fol. 7. the hospital of St. John, Wells.
- Richard Lange, on a title of the convent of Ford of the diocese of Exeter.
- Robert Morys of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of Benedon.
- William Moygne of the diocese of Ely, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of Abbatisbury of the diocese of Salisbury.
- Richard Sotey of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory on a title of the priory of Kynggeston.
- Robert Ferby, on a title of the convent of Muchelney.
- Brothers Robert Chiew and William Taylour, canons regular of the monastery of Keynesham.
- Brother John Compton, brother of the hospital of St. John, Bruggewater.
- Walter Pope of the diocese of Lincoln, fellow of the college of St. Mary of Winchester in Oxford, sufficiently dismissed by a privilege specially indulted to the warden and fellows of the college by the apostolic see on a title of the college.
- John Pleyer of the diocese of Salisbury, deacon, fellow of the said college, by the privilege aforesaid.
- Richard Mey of the diocese of Lincoln, fellow of the said college, by the privilege aforesaid.
- Thomas Batheryn of the diocese of Hereford, by letters dimissory on a title of the convent of Tayntarn of the same diocese,

1426.

John Taylour of the diocese of Llandaff, by letters dimissory on a title of the brethren of St. John the Baptist, Wells.  
 John Tumlys of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory on a title of the monastery of Malmesbury.  
 John Symmes, on a title of the convent of Worspryng.

22. April 11, 1426. In furtherance of a commission of John, bishop of Salisbury, for an exchange of benefices between Sir William Touker, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Clyvedon of the diocese of Bath and Wells, and Walter Tilloly, rector of the parish church of Frome St. Quinton of the diocese of Salisbury, the vicar general received the resignations of the above, admitted Sir Walter to the said perpetual vicarage at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol, and instituted Sir William as rector of the latter church at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Teukesbury, reserving his induction and obedience to his diocesan.

HIC INCIPIT ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS QUADRINGEN-  
 TESIMUS VICESIMUS SEXTUS.

23. April 25. Wells. The vicar general instituted Sir Thomas Synykar, priest, as rector of the parish church of Clotton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Corffe, at the presentation of Humphrey Stafford, knight, patron of this turn.

24. May 14. Wells. He instituted Sir Robert Reede, priest, as rector of the parish church of Whethull vacant by the resignation of Sir William Rose; at the presentation of John Stourton the elder.

Fol. 7*v*.

25. May 18. Wells. He instituted Sir Robert Levermore priest in the person of Nicholas Benet, his proctor, in the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Montacute vacant by the death of William Mollyng; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute.

26. May 24. He instituted Sir John Moumbray, priest, as rector of the parish church of Ekeforton *alias* Fayrooke; at the presentation of Richard Paveley, esquire.

27. May 24. His inn at Wells. He instituted Sir Robert Avele, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Hyghlytelton, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Harry; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham. 1426.

28. Those ordained at Bruton in the conventual church there on the vigil of the Holy Trinity, namely 25 May, 1426, by the bishop suffragan Richard bishop of Innis Scattery.

#### Acolytes.

John Pill, Walter Engelson John Fermer, Thomas Grendell,  
Robert Cote, and William Fele.  
Brothers John Bray and John Purme, monks of Athelney.  
Henry Scryven of the diocese of Worcester.

#### Subdeacons.

Richard Pill, on a title of the prior and brethren of St. John the Baptist, Wells.  
John Mere, on a like title.  
William Stery, on a title of the convent of Schirborn of the diocese of Salisbury.  
John Nete, on a title of the convent of Worspryng.  
John Clare, on a title of the convent of Muchelney to all.  
Thomas Puttocke, on a like title.  
Brothers John Bury and John Punne, monks of Athelney.  
William Towe of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory to the order of the subdiaconate only, on a title of the brethren of the house of St. John, Lechelade, of the diocese of Worcester.

#### Deacons.

John Moris, on a title of the convent of Taunton.  
William Wyther, on a title of the convent of Ford of the diocese of Exeter.  
Walter Hogges, on a title of the convent of Kanyngton.  
John Merssh, on a title of the convent of Bruton.  
John Baron of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory Fol. 8.  
on a title of the convent of Polton of the same diocese.

1426.

Brother Gerard Bote, monk of Henton of the Carthusian order.

Richard Dunne, on a title of the brethren of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Wells.

Henry Birket, on a title of the convent of Schirborn.

John Hamunde, on a like title.

Nicholas Bayne, vicar of the choir of the cathedral church of Wells, on a title of his stall.

#### Priests.

John Howell, on a title of the convent of Taunton.

Ralph Hillyng, on a like title.

John Webber, on a title of the convent of Dunkeswell of the diocese of Exeter.

William Sumpter, on a title of the prior and brethren of the hospital of St. John, Wells.

Brother John Chyvely, canon of the priory of Ivychurch, of the diocese of Salisbury, by letters dimissory.

Brothers Morice Boterley and John Robard, monks of Cleeve of the Cistercian order.

Master John Osborn of the diocese of Worcester, by letters dimissory on a title of the convent of St. Mary's, Keynesham.

William Northham and Richard Hillard, vicars of the choir of the cathedral church of Wells.

Brothers John Lamporte and Robert Burnet, monks of the cathedral church of Bath.

Henry Yerde, on a title of the convent of Keynesham.

Stephen Godeman, on a title of the convent of St. Mary Magdalen, Bristol, of the diocese of Worcester.

Robert Redehede, on a title of the convent of Schirborn of the diocese of Salisbury.

John Langeley, on a title of the prior and convent of Berlych.

29. June 8. Wells. The vicar general instituted Sir John Berell, clerk, in the person of Nicholas Benet, clerk, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Odecomb, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Levermere, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute.

30. June 25. Wells. He instituted Sir William Smyth, <sup>1426.</sup> priest, as vicar of the parish church of Wyghtlakynghton, at the presentation of Master William Felter, canon of the cathedral church of Wells and prebendary of the prebend of Wyghtlakynghton in the same.

31. William bishop of London to bishop John. Transmits <sup>Fol. 7d.</sup> for execution in his diocese a letter of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his inn at Leicester, reciting that whereas in the last convocation of the clergy of the province of Canterbury held in the church of St. Paul, London, there was granted to the king for the defence of the rights and liberties of the church of England and the clergy a farthing in the pound of all ecclesiastical goods and benefices, taxed and not taxed, for a term to be limited by the archbishop, to be paid to Master William Lyndewode, official of his court of Arches, London, who had been elected with one accord by the prelates and clergy to be receiver general in this behalf, and commanding him to cause the same to be levied as speedily as possible throughout the province, and give command to all his brother bishops, the archbishop's suffragans, to make a faithful estimate and taxation of the true yearly value of the benefices, offices and dignities, not taxed, and then cause the said subsidy to be levied by some of their clergy according to the force, form and effect, of the grant, by St. Peter ad Vincula next, to be paid on that feast to the said receiver general, taking care to certify the archbishop and the receiver general of the collectors appointed with the estimate of the true yearly value of such untaxed benefices in a schedule annexed to their letters of certificate, which letters are to contain the tenour of the archbishop's letter, dated in his inn at Leicester, 28 May, 1426, the first year of his consecration.

On 30 June in the same year, when the inquisition required in this case and the estimate of the yearly value of benefices not taxed were made in the manner noted below, publication of the grant was made in the cathedral church of Wells and elsewhere, as had been asked for, and to collect such farthing in the pound the archdeacons were deputed as collectors within their archdeaconries by several commissions directed to them in this

1426. behalf. And at last there went out a certificate in the premises  
 Fol. 8. to the archbishop of Canterbury and the receiver general as  
 follows; Certificate of John Hody, precentor of Wells, vicar  
 general of John, bishop of Bath and Wells, that, after making the  
 estimate of the yearly value of benefices not taxed as in the  
 schedule annexed, he has given effect to the above mandate  
 throughout the city and diocese of Bath and Wells, for this  
 time only and not to create a precedent, and has appointed as  
 collectors of the subsidy Masters Thomas Bubbewyth, arch-  
 deacon of Wells, within the cathedral church and the city of  
 Wells, the jurisdiction of Glastonbury and the archdeaconry,  
 and Roger Harewell, archdeacon of Bath, and Nicholas Calton,  
 archdeacon of Taunton, within their archdeaconries.

Dated under the seal of his office of such Vicariate, at Wells,  
 on the — day of the month of —, 1426.

Fol. 8d.

The Schedule mentioned above.

ESTIMATED YEARLY VALUE OF BENEFICES IN THE DIOCESE,  
 NOT TAXED.

The archdeaconry of Bath.

In the deanery of Bath.

The church of Northstoke			vj <i>l</i> i.
"	"	" Fressshford	x <i>l</i> s.
"	"	" Wodewyke	x <i>l</i> s.
"	"	" St. Michael without the north gate of Bath	viii <i>j</i> l <i>i</i> .
"	"	" St. Mary within the same gate	iii <i>j</i> l <i>i</i> .
"	"	" St. James, Bath	x <i>l</i> s.
"	"	" St. Michael by the bath, Bath	x <i>l</i> s.
The vicarage of Weston			vj <i>l</i> i.
"	"	" Southstoke	viii <i>j</i> l <i>i</i> .
"	"	" Twyverton	iii <i>j</i> l <i>i</i> .
"	"	" Ynglescombe	vj <i>l</i> i.
"	"	" Bathewyke	vj <i>l</i> i.
"	"	" Hampton	iii <i>j</i> l <i>i</i> .
"	"	" St. Mary de Stallis, Bath	viii <i>j</i> l <i>i</i> .
"	"	" Batheston	vj <i>l</i> i.

## In the deanery of Redeclyffe.

1426.

The church of Brocley		vj <i>li.</i>	
"	"	Chelvey	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Oble	x <i>li.</i>
"	"	Chelleworthi	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Weston	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Norton Malereward	vj <i>li.</i>
"	"	Staunton Prioris	vj <i>li.</i>
"	"	Clutton	vj <i>li.</i>
"	"	Burnet	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Henton Bluet	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Stoke in Chiew	iiij <i>li.</i>
The vicarage of Bacwell		iiij <i>li.</i>	
"	"	Temple Bristoll	x <i>li.</i>
"	"	Yatton	x <i>li.</i>
"	"	Clyvedon	viiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Tykenham	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Eston	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Westharpree	viiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Estharpree	vj <i>li.</i>
"	"	Aysshton	viiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Portebury	viiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Stowey in Chiew	x <i>ls.</i>
"	"	Staunton Drew	viiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Littelton	x <i>ls.</i>
"	"	Compton Dando	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Corston	x <i>ls.</i>
The church of Bodecomb		x <i>ls.</i>	
"	"	Barwe Monialium	iiij <i>li.</i>
"	"	Norton Hautevyle	x <i>ls.</i>

## The archdeaconry of Taunton.

## In the deanery of Croukern.

The church of Esthamme			iiij <i>l.</i>
”	”	” Misterton	x <i>ls.</i>
”	”	” Wayford	x <i>ls.</i>
”	”	” Seburgh	v <i>jl.</i>
”	”	” Southbradon	iiij <i>l.</i>
”	”	” Gosebinbon	x <i>ls.</i>

1426

In the deanery of Croukern—*contd.*

The church of	Erneshull	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Stokelynych Otrise	xls.
" "	" Stokelynych Mawdeleyne	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Criket Thomas	v <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Criket Malerbe	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Westdowlyssh	xls.
" "	" Chafcombe	v <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Hacche	v <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Copelond	xxs.
" "	" Bere	xls.
The vicarage of	Meriet	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Ile Abbatis	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Ilebrewer	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Fifide	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Swelle	xls.
" "	" Coryryvell	viiij <i>l</i> i.
The chantry of	Wyke	xls.
The vicarage of	Ilton	v <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Ilmyster	x <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Whytlakyngton	xls.
" "	" Aisshulle	lxs.
" "	" Cherid	viiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Combe Nicholas	v <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Wynsham	iiij <i>l</i> i.
The church of	Ilebrewer	v <i>l</i> i.

In the deanery of Taunton.

The church of	Leigh Militis	xls.
" "	" Orchard	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Ronyngton	iiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Kedeford	v <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Stauley	xls.
" "	" Hethefeld	xls.
" "	" Bathialton	xs.
The vicarage of	Kynggeston	viiij <i>l</i> i.
" "	" Nynhyde	xls.
" "	" Sampford Parva	xls.
The church of	Halse	x <i>l</i> i.
The vicarage there		v <i>l</i> i.



In the deanery of Dunster.	1426.
The church of Chipstaple	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Skylgate	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Radyngton	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Tolond	lx <i>s</i> .
" " " Wythicomb	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Ketenor	xx <i>s</i> .
" " " Ore	xl <i>s</i> .
" " " Stokepiro	xx <i>s</i> .
" " " Sylver	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Sampford Brit	vj <i>li</i> .
The vicarage of Dylverton	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Brompton Regis	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Cudecombe	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Tymbrescombe	xl <i>s</i> .
" " " Mynhede	xl <i>i</i> .
" " " Dunster	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Olectyna	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Stokegummer	viiij <i>li</i> .
In the deanery of Bruggewater.	
The church of Bruggewater	xl <i>i</i> .
" " " Durle	xl <i>i</i> .
" " " Durston	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Mighelchurch	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Wemodon	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Pederton	xxvj <i>li</i> .
" " " Holeford	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Fydyngton	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Emidmere	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Gotehurst	viiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Thurlokeston	xl <i>s</i> .
The chantry of Northnewton	lx <i>s</i> .
" " " Idestoke	xl <i>s</i> .
The vicarage of Lydyard Episcopi	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Stokecursy	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Nedrestoway	vj <i>li</i> .
" " " Stokelond	xl <i>s</i> .
" " " Canyngton	iiij <i>li</i> .
" " " Wemodon	iiij <i>li</i> .

1426.

In the deanery of Bruggewater—*contd.*

The vicarage of Leng xls.

" " " Culmeton xls.

The archdeaconry of Wells.

In the deanery of Axbrugg.

The church of Schipham iiij*l*i.

" " " Rowbargh xls.

" " " Breen iiij*l*i." " " Crucheston iiij*l*i." " " Churchull iiij*l*i.The vicarage of Woky iiij*l*i." " " Westbury v*l*i." " " Wedemor x*l*i." " " Cheddre x*l*i." " " Were iiij*l*i." " " Southbrent v*l*i." " " Estbrent viij*l*i." " " Barwe v*l*i." " " Burnham viij*l*i.

" " " Lokkyng xls.

" " " Wynscomb v*l*i." " " Wolle v*l*i." " " Custoke iiij*l*i." " " Banewell x*l*i." " " Compton Episcopi iiij*l*i.

In the deanery of Frome.

The church of Henton viij*l*i.The vicarage there iiij*l*i.

The church of Fairoke xls.

" " " Bercle xls.

" " " Hardyngton lxs.

" " " Elme iiij*l*i.

" " " Holcombe xls.

" " " Babyngton iiij*l*i." " " Lutton iiij*l*i." " " Kynmersdon v*l*i.

" " " Clowford xls.

The vicarage of Bokelond Dynham iiij*l*i.

## In the deanery of Cary.

The church of	Pulle	xls.
"	"	iii/j/l.
"	"	v/j/l.
"	"	iii/j/l.
"	"	xls.
"	"	xls.
"	"	iii/j/l.
"	"	v/j/l.
"	"	xls.
"	"	x/l.
"	"	v/l.
"	"	v/j/l.
The vicarage of	Milton	lxs.
"	"	vii/j/l.
"	"	x/l.
"	"	xls.
"	"	lxs.
"	"	v/j/l.

## In the deanery of Mersshton.

The church of	Gotehull	xls.
"	"	xls.
"	"	v/j/l.
"	"	iii/j/l.
The vicarage of	Estcoker	vii/j/l.
Two chantries there		iii/j/l.
The vicarage of	Berewyke	v/j/l.
"	"	v/j/l.
"	"	iii/j/l.
"	"	vii/j/l.
Three chantries of	Yvele	vii/j/l.

## In the deanery of Ilchester.

The church of	St. John Yvelcestre	xls.
"	"	iii/j/l.
"	"	xxs.
"	"	xls.
"	"	xls.
"	"	vii/j/l.

1426.	In the deanery of Ilchester— <i>contd.</i>	
	The church of Lofton	xls.
Fol. 9d.	The chantry of Spekyngton	xls.
	" " " Alr	xls.
	Two chantries of Charleton Makerell	xls.
	The church of Northeover with temporalities	xxli.
	The vicarage there	xxs.
	The vicarage of Chilterm Dommer	xxs.
	" " " Charleton Adam	xls.
	" " " Muchelney	xxs.
	" " " Kynggesbury	xli.
	" " " Estchynnok	iiijli.
	" " " Dundon	vjli.
	" " " Hasilbear	iiijli.
	The chantry of Lymyngton	xls.

In the deanery of Powlet.

The church of Powlet.	xli.
The vicarage there	iiijli.
The vicarage of Wolavyngton	vjli.

The archdeaconry of Wells beyond the taxations of the churches of Lylt, Huwyssh, Brent and Barwes.

The jurisdiction of Glastonbury.

The vicarage of Merelynche	vjli.
" " " Aysshcote	viiijli.
" " " Mere	vjli.

32. Martinus episcopus servus servorum Dei dilecto filio Thome Hundon, vicario perpetuo parochialis ecclesie de Cherde Bathoniensis diocesis, salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Sincere devocionis affectus quem ad nos et Romanam geris ecclesiam non indigne meretur ut petitionibus tuis, illis presertim quas ex devocionis fervore prodire conspicimus quantum cum Deo possumus favorabiliter annuamus Hinc est quod nos tuis devotis supplicacionibus inclinati ut liceat tibi qui presbiter es habere altare portabile cum debita reverencia et honore super quo in locis ad hoc congruentibus et honestis possis per te celebrare aut per proprium vel alium sacerdotem idoneum missam

et alia divina officia sine juris alieni prejudicio in tua et familiarum tuorum domesticorum presencia facere celebrari devocioni tue tenore presencium indulgemus. Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostre commissionis infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit indignacionem Omnipotentis Dei et beatorum Petri et Pauli apostolorum Ejus se noverit incursurum. Data Rome apud Sanctos Apostolos vij kal. Novembris pontificatus nostri anno undecimo. [1428.] 1426.

33. Grant by bishop John to John Juyn, knight, Alice his wife and Elizabeth their daughter, of a messuage and a virgate of land and meadow in his manor of Chiew, called Fissfewerez, which Robert Copenhulle of Pennesford sometime held, and a croft and five and a half acres of land of the Overland called Ilkerston which the same Robert held in the same manor; to hold to them and the longer lives of them of him and his successors to wit the messuage and virgate for 10s. to be paid quarterly for all secular service and demand. Saving to the bishop and his successors suit at the court of Chiew yearly, and the enclosure of his park of Westbury so far as pertains to so much land in the manor aforesaid.

A like grant by bishop Nicholas to John Juyn and Edith his wife, by indenture witnessed by Richard Sutton, John Chok, Robert Prataunt, John Whytwode, Robert Taillour and others. Dated the morrow of St. George the Martyr, 2 Henry VI. Fol. 10.

And be it known that the said John Juyn on 24 June, 15 Henry VI, after the death of the aforesaid Edith his late wife surrendered to bishop John his estate in the premises, and the bishop accepted the surrender and subsequently by a writing, the tenour of which follows, demised the same to the said John, now knight, and Alice, now his wife, and Elizabeth their daughter, to hold to them and the longer lives of them.

The bishop's indenture of grant of the premises aforesaid, witnesses;—John Hody, Alexander Hody, Henry Champeneys, John Whittokysmede, Richard Chocke and many others. Dated 24 June, 15 Henry VI. [1437.]

And a letter of attorney is directed to certain persons to deliver seisin, etc.

1442.

Fol. 10d.

34. Johannes permissione divina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus omnibus etc. Sciatis quod nos considerantes quam plura gravamina, nocumenta, pericula, perdicionem, et dampna, que dilecti in Christo filii Willelmus prior ecclesie nostre cathedralis beatorum apostolorum Petri et Pauli Bathoniensis et ejusdem loci conventus, necnon eorum servientes et familiares indies sustinent et incurrunt in caracione et vectura suorum lignorum et focalium a silva sua vocata Suthwode parcella manerii sui de Forde in comitatu Somersetie usque domum et monasterium suum in civitate Bathoniensi pre nimia longitudine antique vie communis a dicta silva et manerio usque ad dictam civitatem Bathoniensem ducentis, que sepius per inundacionem, profunda, nociva, et lutosa existit; volentesque congruis, idoneis et necessariis quieti et emolumento dicti prioris, conventus, et successorum suorum in hac parte providere ob reverenciam Dei et caritatis intuitu et propter justam paternam affectionem quam erga dictos filios dilectos suis exigentibus meritis gerimus et habemus, concessimus et concedimus pro nobis et successoribus nostris per presentes, prefatis priori et conventui et successoribus suis quod ipsi de novo erigere et construere possint unum pontem latitudinis viginti pedum ultra medietatem et partem nostram aque Abbone, exopposito cujusdam campi nostri vocati Allersmede alias dicti Allermore infra manerium nostrum de Claverton in comitatu predicto et quod ipsi in solo nostro in una medietate ejusdem aque et in ripariis ejusdem aque fodera et lapides, ligna, postes, meremium et cetera necessaria pro supportacione pontis ejusdem figere, mittere et eundem pontem reparare, et alium de novo edificare de tempore in tempus in futuro possint sicut eis fore videbitur necessarium et oportunum Et quod iidem prior et conventus ac successores sui predicti perpetuis futuris temporibus facere, constituere, habere et possidere possint quandam viam et semitam latitudinis supradicte a dicta aqua Abbone et a dicto ponte sic de novo erigendo ultra et super dictum campum nostrum vocatum Allersmede directe usque ad quandam portam ejusdem campi vocatam Aller Yate et ab eadem porta super solum nostrum usque in quandam viam que jacet inter Claverton et Combe et ab eadem via super solum nostrum directe versus boriā usque quandam forlongum terre nostre vocatum Middel-forlong jacentem in occidentali parte dicte vie que est inter

Claverton et Combe et sic directe super eundem forlongum ver-<sup>1442.</sup>  
sus occidentem per le South mere ejusdem forlongi et ab eodem  
forlongo super quendam forlongum terre nostre vocatum Hyefor-  
long usque ad quandam semitam vocatam Perkers Patthe et  
ultra eandem semitam super quandam peciam terre nostre vocate  
Grenelynche quousque perventum fuerit ante orientalem finem  
cujusdam parvi bosci nostri dicti 'a grove,' vulgariter vocati  
Wilkyns Grove, et abinde super solum nostrum subtus quandam  
ripam vocatam 'The Hurst' in australi parte ejusdem ripe usque  
finem ejusdem ripe et a fine ejusdem ripe super solum nostrum  
usque in quoddam clausum nostrum subtus dictum parvum  
boscum vocatum Wylkyns Grove in australi parte ejusdem  
clausi nostri jaxta sepem ejusdem clausi usque in occidentalem  
finem dicti parvi bosci vocati Wylkyns Grove et ab eodem fine  
directe super solum nostrum usque altam regiam viam jacentem  
super montem vocatum Clavertons Doune que via jacet inter  
Claverton et Bathoniam et ducit at Bathoniam Et ulterius con-  
cessimus ac concedimus per presentes p̄dictis priori et conventui  
ac successoribus suis quod ipsi ac eorum servientes familiares et  
domestici pro tempore existentes ac alii per ipsum priorem aut  
successores suos p̄dictos, deputandi et assignandi perpetuis  
futuris temporibus exercere et occupare possint pontem, vias et  
semitas supradicta per loca et limites supradicta et quecumque  
carecte plaustra et cariagia sua per eosdem pontem, vias et semitas  
a dicta silva et manerio de Forde usque dictam civitatem Bath-  
oniensem et ab eadem civitate usque dictum manerium de Forde  
singulis anni temporibus ad eorum libitum vehere ferre et cariare.  
Necnon pedestres et equestres transire possint licite et impune  
sine impedimento seu perturbacione nostri et successorum nostro-  
rum ballivorum, tenencium, ministrorum seu officiariorum nos-  
trorum quorumcumque absque aliquo nobis seu successoribus  
nostris inde reddendo vel solvendo In cujus rei testimonium  
presentibus sigillum nostrum apponi fecimus. Data primo die  
Octobris, 1442. et mee consecracionis anno decimo octavo.

[*Fol. 11 is missing.*]

35. . . . . potestate presentibus ad nostrum beneplaci-<sup>Fol. 12.</sup>  
tum duratura In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum presen-  
tibus est appensum. Data in hospicio nostro Londonie ultimo

1425.

die mensis Junii anno domini 1425, et nostre consecracionis anno primo.

36. Commissio commissarii generalis.

Item die etc. suprascriptis idem reverendus pater Magistrum Johannem Bernard in legibus bacallarium in diocesi et civitatibus Bathoniensi et Wellensi suum ordinavit et deputavit commissarium generalem sub forma verborum sequencium;— Johannes etc. dilecto in Christo filio Magistro Johanni etc. salutem gratiam et benedictionem. Cuncta nobis commissa personaliter exercere non valentes ac de tuis circumspeccione, fidelitate et industria plurimum in domino confidentes Ad inquirenda, corrigenda et punienda crimina et excessus quorumcumque subditorum nostrorum infra ambitum nostre diocesis existencium et delinquencium tam infra nostram jurisdictionem peculiarem de Welyngton, Cherde et Chiew, quam alibi infra dictam nostram diocesim ubicumque, ac testamenta quorumlibet subditorum nostrorum hujusmodi aliorumque infra nostram jurisdictionem ubicumque decedentium nostra auctoritate aperienda, insinuanda, probanda et approbanda. Administracionem quoque bonorum hujusmodi testatorum quam ab intestato decedencium in forma juris committendam et administracionem ex officio deputandam bonaque ecclesiastica et decedencium ab intestato infra diocesim et jurisdictionem nostras predictas in casibus a jure permissis sequestranda et sequestra hujusmodi in forma juris relaxanda necnon redditus et proventus nostros spirituales infra dictam nostram diocesim recipiendos cum beneficiatis insuper quibuscumque dicte nostre diocesis ut a beneficiis suis hujusmodi per annum ex causa honesta et probabili se absentare valeant ac fructus beneficiorum eorundem percipere dispensare, penitenciariorumque providos et ydoneos in singulis decanatibus dicte nostre diocesis temporibus Quadragesimalibus nominandos et preficiendos, ceteraque omnia et singula facienda, exercenda et expedienda que in premissis et circa ea necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet oportuna et que ad hujusmodi commissionariatus officium qualitercumque noscuntur pertinere; tibi tenore presentium committimus vices nostras, teque commissarium nostrum generalem ac dicte nostre peculiaris jurisdictionis officialem cum coercionis cujuslibet cano<sup>ce</sup> potestate preficimus et deputamus



per presentes ad nostrum beneplacitum duraturas. In cujus etc. 1425.  
Data in hospicio nostro Londonii ultimo die Junii, 1425 etc.

37. Commissio mandatarii sive apparitoris.

Johannes etc. dilecto in Christo filio Petro Cola salū etc. De tuis fidelitate et circumspectionis industria plurimum confidentes te in apparitorem nostrum generalem per totam nostram diocesim p̄ficimus per presentes dantes tibi potestatem citacionis in quantum de jure vel consuetudine per apparitorem in eadem diocesi fuerunt, poterunt, vel debuerunt, ac certificatoria debite hujusmodi citacionis conveniencia debite faciendi quociens et quando opus fuerit ulteriusque faciendi et exercendi omnia et singula que per apparitorem generalem in eadem diocesi expediri fuerint et sint consueta presentes ad nostrum beneplacitum durature. In cujus etc. Data etc. (*ut supra*).

38. May 28. London. The bishop granted during pleasure licence for Sir William Eorul donzel and lady Margaret Malet, his wife, of his diocese, to have divine offices celebrated in their presence in any suitable place in the diocese set in order for divine worship ; without prejudice to anyone.

39. Also on 30 May he granted to John Richard of his diocese, Fol. 12*v*. acolyte, letters dimissory to all holy orders.

40. June 1. London. The bishop instituted brother John Fulford, professor of sacred theology, of the order of the Friars Preachers, priest, as master of the hospital of St. Katharine, Bedemynstre, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Cariscombe, chaplain ; at the presentation of Richard de Bello Campo, earl of Warwick. And a letter was written the same day to the arch-deacon of Bath for his induction.

41. May 28. London. He collated Sir Robert Colby, chaplain, to the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Westbury, vacant by the death of Master Walter Burdes ; and instituted him to the same according to the form of the constitutions of the lords Otho and Ottobonus, sometime legates in England of the apostolic see.

1425.

42. June 8. Same place. He instituted likewise Sir Thomas Rycher in the person of John Shokes, literate, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of St. John the Baptist, Keynesham, vacant by resignation as incapable of being held with another benefice, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Mary's, Keynesham.

43. June 14. Same place. He instituted Sir Thomas Hardy, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Brakley, vacant by the resignation of Sir Simon Belton; at the presentation of the lady Joan de Beauchamp, lady of Bergevenny.

Fol. 13.

44. June 15. Same place. A certificate of Master Walter Eston, vicar general of Thomas, bishop of Chichester, upon a commission for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Saundres, rector of the parish church of Rympton, and Edmund Tharpston, rector of the parish church of Brede of the diocese of Chichester, was received, shewing that he has instituted the latter in the church of Rympton at the presentation of Henry, bishop of Winchester; and on receipt of the oath of obedience of the said Sir Edmund it was written to the archdeacon of Wells for his induction.

45. July 1. Same place. The bishop instituted, according to the form of the legatine constitutions, Sir Richard Westwode, chaplain to the vicarage of the parish church of Westtharptre, vacant by acquisition of another benefice incapable of being held with it; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Mary's, Keynesham.

46. Grant by the bishop to Dan John Henton, monk of the cathedral church of Bath, of the wardenship and administration of the cell of Dunster, a dependant of the said church, in the bishop's gift by reason of the priory of that church being in his keeping by the death of Dan John Telisford, last prior there; and appointment of him as warden and administrator of that cell. Dated in his inn at London 28 July, 1425.

Mandate to the monks of the cell to be obedient to him.  
Fol. 13*u*. Dated as above.

47. As above. The bishop collated Sir William Smyth, <sup>1425.</sup> chaplain, to the parish church of Laverton; and instituted him as rector therein.

48. Grant by the bishop to Master John Reynold, subdean, canon and residentiary of the cathedral church of Wells, of the canon's house in Wells in which Sir John Knyght, late canon and residentiary, dwelt in his lifetime. Dated under his seal in Dogmersfeld manor, 8 September, 1425

49. July 28. Wells. Master John Hody, vicar general, expedited a commission of John, bishop of London, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Roger Saxton, rector of the parish church of Lamborne, of said bishop's diocese, and John Baker, chaplain, rector of the parish church of Mersshton by Frome, and instituted the latter in the church of Lamborne at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Waltham of the diocese of London, and Sir Roger in the church of Mersshton at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Cirencestre of the diocese of Worcester.

50. Sept. 8. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop collated Master Richard Caudray to a canonry in his cathedral church of Wells and the prebend of Dynam in the same church, vacant by the death of Sir John Knyght, and instituted him in the same.

51. Sept. 17. The chapel of Woky manor. The bishop, by <sup>Fol. 14.</sup> authority of apostolic letters dated at Rome at the Holy Apostles, 6 ides of May, 8 Martin V, the tenour of which is given, after diligent examination made in this behalf, created Thomas Fitzwilliam, clerk, of the diocese of York, a notary public, and invested him in the office of notary by delivery of pen, inkhorn and paper; there being then present Richard Pyke and Master John Kermarthyn, notary public of the dioceses of Bath and St. Davids, witnesses called to the premises.

52. Sept. 17. Wells palace. In furtherance of an exchange of benefices between Sirs William Lane, rector of the parish church of Sockedenyse, and John Alampton, rector of the parish church of Bokeland St. Mary, instituted the former to the church <sup>Fol. 14d.</sup>

1425.

of Bokeland St. Mary, at the presentation of William Bonevyle, knight, and Sir John in the church of Sockedenyse, at the presentation of the same knight.

53. Sept. 17. Wells palace. The bishop collated to Sir John Catour, chaplain, the parish church of Weston super Mare; and instituted him as rector therein.

54. Sept. 18. Wells palace. In furtherance of a commission of Henry, bishop of Winchester, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs William Drayton, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Cloford, and Walter Bysleigh, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Thorley, Isle of Wight, of the diocese of Winchester, bishop John instituted Sir William to the vicarage of Thorley, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Christchurch Twyngham of the diocese of Winchester, and Sir Walter to the vicarage of Cloford, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham.

55. Sept. 18. Wells palace. At the petition of John de Redisdale, prior provincial of the order of Friars Preachers of the province of England, the bishop, according to the form of the new constitution in the Clementine constitutions, committed to William Daniel, friar of the order, power to hear confessions in the cities and diocese of Bath and Wells; and enjoin penances for the sins committed; until these letters are revoked.

Fol. 15.

The form of the commission.

56. Sept. 18. Wells palace. He granted a dispensation for one year to Sir John Broun, rector of the parish church of Hardyngton, to attend schools wherever in England there is a *generale studium*.

57. Sept. 19. Woky manor. He granted to William Foleford, subdeacon, rector of the parish church of Taunton, letters dimissory to the orders of the diaconate and the priesthood at least.

58. Sept. 20. Woky manor. He deputed the abbot and convent of Cleeve to be collectors of a half-tenth by force of a writ of the king as follows: Henricus etc. Johanni etc.

Cum vos ceterique prelati et clerus Cantuariensis provincie in <sup>1425.</sup> ultima convocacione vestra in ecclesia cathedrali Sancti Pauli Londoniensi vicesimo tercio die Aprilis ultimo preterito incepta et usque ad et in decimum octavum diem Julii de diebus in dies continuata concesseritis nobis medietatem unius decime de beneficiis, bonis et possessionibus ecclesiasticis dicte provincie taxatis et ad decimas solvere consuetis ad festum Sancti Martini in Yeme proximo futurum—the colleges of the blessed Mary of Winchester and Oxford lately founded, and the Carthusian house of Jesus of Bethlehem of Shene being excused. Vobis mandamus quod aliquos viros fide dignos de clero vestre diocesis pro quibus respondere volueritis ad dictam medietatem decime in eadem diocesi vestra juxta formam concessionis predicte levandam et colligendam, prout moris est, assignari et deputari faciatis etc. thesaurarium et barones de Scaccario nostro de nominibus illorum quos ad hoc deputaveritis citra octabas Sancti Michaelis proximo futuras ad ultimum distincte et aperte certificantes. Et hoc sicut nos et honorem nostrum diligitis nullatenus omittatis. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium xxiii die Julii anno regni nostri octavo. [1430.]

59. Sept. 19. Bath priory. The bishop collated to Sir Nicholas Dixon, chaplain, a canonry and the prebend of Combe quartadecima in the cathedral church of Wells; and invested him therein.

60. Sept. 22. Bath priory. He instituted Sir William Harry, chaplain, in the vicarage of the parish church of High-lylton; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Mary's, Keynesham.

61. Dec. 8. London. In furtherance of a commission of Philip, bishop of Worcester, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs William Preston, rector of the parish church of Clowesworth, and John Abell, rector of the parish church of Clyvelode of his Fol. 16. diocese, bishop John instituted Sir William to the church of Clyvelode, at the presentation of John Berkeley, knight, and Sir John to the church of Clowesworth, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute.

1426.

62. Nov. 20. London. The bishop instituted William Bykenell, clerk, as rector of the parish church of Charleton Makerell, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Toth; at the presentation of John Trethek, esquire; and assigned to the outgoing rector a pension of 10 marks for life out of the fruits of the said church.

Fol. 16d.

63. The king's writ of summons to the bishop to a Parliament to meet at Leycestre on 18 February next. Dated at Westminster 7 January 4 Henry VI.

[*Dugdale, Summons to Parliament*, pp. 412, 413.]

Fol. 17.

64. Jan. 17. 1425-26. The chapel in the bishop's inn at London. The bishop, by authority of apostolic letters dated at Rome at the Holy Apostles xvij kal. Octobris, 8 Martin V, containing the form of the oath to be taken on admission, created Robert Grout, clerk, of the diocese of Norwich, a notary public, and invested him in the office by the delivery of pen, inkhorn and paper, there being then present as witnesses Masters John Warryf, doctor of laws, William Goodman, Richard Haddersay and Thomas Byldesthorp, notaries public of the dioceses of Canterbury, York and Worcester.

65. A decree or declaration made by bishop John in the execution of letters of Jordan, bishop of Albano, the pope's penancer, dated at Rome at the Holy Apostles, 6 kal. July, 5 Martin V, committing to him by authority of the pope to make inquisition touching a petition to the penancer made on behalf of brother John Spenser, priest, a monk professed in the monastery of Mychilney of the order of St. Benedict, containing that he commissioned some time ago certain persons, who ought to have come to the apostolic see, to obtain for him from the same see at his expense an indult of exemption and habilitation to secular benefices, which they promised to do; these persons in truth after some time on their return handed to him such letters which they asserted they had obtained from the pope, and believing these to be genuine, especially as they were held to be such by some faithful men, not acquainted however with the style of the Roman curia, he went forth from the monastery, without licence,

retaining his habit nevertheless, and acted as chaplain in the <sup>1426.</sup> service of some temporal lords. Afterwards, beginning to suspect that the letters were false, he sent copies of them to friends of his in the Roman curia, who notified him that the register of them could not be found; he will therefore no longer make use of them, and humbly prays the apostolic see to make provision for him in respect of his use of the letters while he believed them to be true apostolic letters, promising that if the forged letters are <sup>Fol. 17d.</sup> still in existence and can be obtained by him, he will have them torn up; and to declare the petitioner to have incurred no sentence of excommunication or mark of apostasy or any disability in the premises—that as after full inquisition made by Master John Bernard, bachelor in laws, his commissary general, he finds all things contained in the petition to be true, he decrees accordingly. Dated in his inn at London, 20 January 1425-26.

66. Jan. 22. London. A certificate of the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, London, upon the bishop's commission for an exchange of benefices between Master Thomas Feryby, canon and prebendary of Dynre in the cathedral church of Wells, and Sir Richard Benastre, chaplain, warden of the free chapel of St. Radegund in the crypt, which is of their collation, was received, by which it appeared that they have collated the said Richard to the canonry and prebend aforesaid of the bishop's collation, and instituted him to the same; and after receipt of the oath of obedience of the said Richard a letter was written to the dean (or in his absence the subdean) and chapter for his induction.

67. Jan. 28. London. The bishop collated Sir William <sup>Fol. 18.</sup> Sprynge, chaplain, to the parish church of Botecombe, in his collation according to the statutes of the Lateran council, by lapse; and instituted him therein.

68. Feb. 12. Same place. He instituted Sir Henry Spelly, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal or parish church of Bathewyk, vacant by the resignation of Sir Richard Toukere; at the presentation of Thomas Morton, canon, in the conventual church of the house of nuns of Warwell, of the diocese of Winchester, and prebendary of Bathewyk in the same.

1426.

69. Collation by the bishop to Sir Henry Martin, chaplain, perpetual vicar of a stall in the choir of the cathedral church of Wells, of the tenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close counting from the church, vacant by the death of Sir William Purs, to dwell in according to the statutes and ordinance of Ralph de Salopia, sometime bishop of Bath and Wells; with an injunction to him to repair, refit, maintain and cover over the said chamber with its appurtenances. Further it is the bishop's will that whenever the said Henry fail to inhabit the chamber, without reasonable cause to be approved by the bishop or his successors for one whole year, he shall be deprived of it for ever. Dated under the bishop's seal in his inn at London, December 20, 1425.

Feb. 20. The bishop's inn at Leycestre. The bishop collated Sir Thomas Chilington, perpetual vicar, etc., to the second chamber on the east side of the close, vacant by the death of Sir William Hoper.

As above. He collated Thomas FitzWilliam, subdeacon, perpetual vicar, etc., to the last chamber on the west side of the close, vacated by Sir Thomas Chilington.

Fol. 18d.

70. Feb. 22. Same place. The bishop instituted Master David Price, licentiate in laws, as rector of the parish church of Dychesyate; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury.

71. March 17. Same place. He collated Master Thomas Circestre, bachelor in theology, rector of the parish church of Feny Sutton of the diocese of Salisbury, to a canonry and the prebend of Comba quarta in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted him in these.

72. As above. He granted to Adam Irland, deacon, rector of the parish church of Lampford, a dispensation for two years to attend schools anywhere in England where is a *generale studium*.

73. Confirmacio composicionis facte inter priorem et conventum ecclesie cathedralis Bathoniensis, proprietarios ecclesie parochialis de Cary, et vicarium ibidem.



Johannes etc. episcopus, universis etc. salutem in Domino et 1426.  
fidem indubiam presentibus adhibere. Ecclesiis cathedralibus Bathoniensi et Wellensi invicem unitis licet immeriti disponente Domino presidentes, quieti omnium subjectorum eorundem majori qua possumus solercia reddimur solliciti ut juxta debitum pastoralis officii eorum occurramus dispendiis et animarum periculis, litium quoque que verisimiliter inter eos oriri poterunt qua cum Domino possumus amputemus maturiore et tranquillitati et profectibus eorum, Divina cooperante clemencia salubriter intendamus, sane dilectorum filiorum religiosorum virorum Willelmi Southbrook, prioris ecclesie nostre cathedralis, Bathoniensis predictae, et ejusdem ecclesie capituli seu conventus, rectoris et proprietariorum ecclesie parochialis de Cary, ex parte una et Ricardum (*sic*) Brook, capellanum, vicarium perpetuum ecclesie parochialis predictae, nobis unanimiter oblata peticio continebat quod ex antiqua ordinatione vicarie in ecclesia parochialis de Cary predicta fuerunt animarum parochianorum ibidem qui decimas minutas solvere tenebantur insurgebant pericula ex intricata vendicatione decimarum pasture animalium interdum quia inter dictos rectores et patronos et quandoque inter ipsum vicarium et patronos pro decimis et modo decimandi oriebantur contenciones et discordiarum materie insurgebant. Igitur attento quod sine pace non bene colitur pacis Auctor, ad Dei laudem et honorem ac pro bono pacis ad removenda hujusmodi pericula et succidendas discordiarum predictarum materias, rectores et proprietarii ac vicarius supradicti pro se et successoribus hincinde novam ordinationem hujusmodi vicarie et compositionem realem quam in eis est accedentibus consensu et auctoritate requisitis in hac parte perpetuo valituram unanimi consensu de communicato concilii inierunt et fecerunt concorditer in hunc modum. In primis quod vicaria perpetua ecclesie parochialis predictae consistat in domo edificata pro manso vicarii vicina curie prioris et conventus predictorum cum curtillagio et in decima lini et canabi ubicumque crescentium infra parochiam in ortis et si in campis seminentur usque ad viginti quatuor acras terre dumtaxat. Habebit insuper dictus vicarius et successores sui decimas provenientes de molendino de Clanefeld et de molendino Wymundi necnon omnes et omnimodas decimas

1426.

provenientes de quodam clauso vocato 'Personesclose' ac de pastura et virgultis in gardino vulgariter dicti 'Court Gardyn,' cum decimis duorum molendinorum infra dicti gardinum situatorum: percipietque et habebit idem vicarius et successores decimam ferine de parco domini de Cary: necnon decimam columbaris domini de Cary ac integraliter quascumque decimas provenientes tam in et de gardino centiguo ejusdem domini de Cary, ac insuper decimas agnorum, lanarum, pullorum, vitulorum, aucarum, porcionem columbaris necnon omnes minutas et mixtas decimas, oblaciones et obenciones spirituales quando-cumque et quomodocumque perveniunt infra parochiam supradictam. Percipient quoque supradicti prior et conventus, rectores et proprietarii antedicti ac successores sui percipient et habebunt churcheshute et decimas garbarum et feni integraliter per totam parochiam ac molendini inferioris, necnon decimas majores de singulis dominicis superius non expressatas ac quindecim acras terre arabilis jacentes sparsim in campo infra parochiam quas vicarius olim habebat sibi assignatas ad porcionem suam de gleba ecclesie antedicte. Cancellum vero ecclesie rectores et sui successores edificabunt et reparabunt ac sustinebunt. Et insuper alia onera extraordinaria dicte ecclesie parochialis agnoscent facient et subibunt. Vicarius autem et sui successores curam animarum parochianorum et onera ordinaria tocians quociens evenerint continuo sustinebunt cum itaque sicut peticio continebat partium predictarum subjunxerit ordinacio sive compositio predicta de expresso consensu communi et deliberacione diligenti inita sit et processerit hiisdemque partibus et utrique eorum honesta, congrua, legitima et laudabilis, ac beneplacens videatur et existat supplicarunt nobis cum instancia non modica quatenus ipsi ordinacioni sive compositiioni sic ut premititur concorditer facte ut realis et perpetua consisteret consentire et eam pro tali declarare ipsamque nostra auctoritate ordinaria et diocesana confirmare et auctorizare dignaremur: nos igitur petitionem suam honestam et juri consentaneam repuntantes ordinacionem sive compositiionem modo et forma ut premititur concorditer factam honestam, congruam et legitimam ac laudabilem de consensu et ad requisicionem partium predictarum pronunciamus et eidem nostrum adhibentes consensum ipsam ut realis et perpetua consistat declaramus

finaliter et diffinitive in hiis scriptis realem et perpetue valituram <sup>1426.</sup>  
amodoque a partibus predictis inviolabiliter observandam, et eam  
auctoritate et diocesana realiter confirmantes eidem nostram  
auctoritatem impertimur actualiter per presentes In cujus rei  
testimonium sigillum nostrum presentibus apposuimus Data in  
hospicio nostro Londoniensi xx<sup>o</sup> die Aprilis 1426 et nostre  
consecracionis anno primo.

SEQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCC<sup>mus</sup>  
VICESIMUS SEXTUS.

74. April 25. London. The bishop collated William Northam vicar of a stall in the choir of his cathedral church of Wells, to the twenty-second chamber on the west side of the vicars' close there.

75. JOHN, bishop of LONDON to bishop JOHN. March 24. <sup>Fol. 19<sup>d</sup>.</sup>  
Fulham manor. Transmits a mandate of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his inn at Leycestre, March 19, 1426, to summon the convocation of the province of Canterbury to meet in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, on Monday after the Sunday on which is sung Misericordias Domini, to wit 15 April next.

76. April 12, 1426. London. The bishop instituted Sir John <sup>Fol. 20.</sup>  
Wodeborgh, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Donkerton at the presentation of John Pederton, esquire, lord of Donkerton.

77. April 23. Same place. He instituted Sir William Burton, chaplain, as warden of the free chapel of St. Laurence, <sup>Fol. 22<sup>a</sup>.</sup>  
Spertegrove, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Grendon; at the presentation of John Cornewayle, knight.

78. May 8. The bishop's inn at Leycestre. He granted to Master John Maior, master in arts, having the first clerical tonsure, letters dimissory to all orders.

79. As above. He instituted Master John Carpenter, bachelor in sacred theology, as rector of the parish church of

1426.

Staunton Prioris, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath.

80. June 27. London. A certificate of Master William Bernham, guardian of the spirituality of the void see of Norwich, upon a commission of the bishop to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Thomas Poy, rector of the church of Templecome, and John Burdeux, rector of the parish church of Sparham of the diocese of Norwich, was received shewing that he has instituted the said Sir John in the person of Robert Talbot, clerk, his proctor, to the church of Templecome at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury; and afterwards Sir John took the oath of obedience, and a letter was written to the archdeacon of Wells for his induction.

Fol. 21.

81. July 7. London. In furtherance of an exchange of benefices between Sirs Nicholas Leche, rector of the parish church of Holeford, and John Gardiner, rector of the parish church of Wrytlyngton, the bishop instituted the latter to the church of Holeford at the presentation of the king, patron for this turn by reason of the alien priory of Stokecursy being in his hands; and the former to the church of Wrytlyngton, at the presentation of Master Alexander Sparwe, canon and prebendary of Wrytlyngton and Fordyngton in the cathedral church of Salisbury, patron of the same church.

82. July 12. London. The bishop collated John Hiller, subdeacon, to a canonry and the prebend of Asshill in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted him.

83. Christi nomine invocato pro tribunali sedentes et solum Deum pre oculis habentes de juris peritorum concilio per hanc nostram sententiam diffinitivam quam ferimus in hiis scriptis pronunciamus, decernimus et declaramus dicto (*sic*) fratri Willelmo non licuisse talia predicare: Et propterea ipsum de heresi vehementer suspectum, scandalorum seminatore dictumque suum sermonem fuisse et esse erroneum, scandalosum, sediciosum, retractaturum a solutione decimarum debitarum et de heresi vehementer suspectum. Et eapropter

ipsum fratrem Willelmum penas et censuras, promulgatas a <sup>1426.</sup> jure presertim per constitutionem felicis recordacionis Clementis quinti que incipit 'Cupientes de penis' incurrisse; ac perjurium et effractorem publici carceris fuisse et esse; necnon ipsum fratrem Willelmum condemnandum fore ad retractandum publice sermonem predictum tanquam erroneum, scandalosum, sediciosum, retractaturum a solutione decimarum debitarum et de heresi vehementer suspectum; et post retractacionem, si facere voluerit, ad carceres reverendi patris domini episcopi Londoniensis usque ad beneplacitum sedis apostolice agenda penitencia (?) et, si facere noluerit, ad perpetuos carceres condemnandum fore et condemnamus.

84. Collation to Master John Hody, canon of the cathedral church of Wells, of the chancellorship of the said church, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Shelforde; and institution and investment of him. Dated in Dogmersfeld manor, 4 September, 1426, the second year of the bishop's consecration. And afterwards it was written to the dean, or the subdean or the president of the chapter, and the chapter for his induction. *Fol. 21d.*

85. Sept. 16. Dogmersfeld manor. In furtherance of a commission of Henry, bishop of Winchester, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Taverner, rector of the parish church of Creket Thomas, and John Maydekyn, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Housbourne Prioris of the diocese of Winchester, bishop John collated the first named Sir John to the said vicarage and instituted him therein; and instituted Sir John Maydekyn to the church of Creket Thomas at the presentation of William Botreaux, lord of Bortreaux.

86. Oct. 13. London. The bishop collated Sir John Culmy, chaplain, to the free chapel of Blakeford, vacant by the death of William Proston, last warden; and instituted him therein. And it was written to Master John Bernard, the bishop's commissary general, for his induction.

87. Nov. 1. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop collated Master John Hody to the canons' house late of Sir Thomas Shelforde, deceased.

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88. Nov. 10. London. He collated Master William Bernham, bachelor in decrees, to a canonry and the prebend of Comba decima in the cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Derby; and instituted and invested him.

Fol. 22

89. Dec. 13. London. He instituted Sir James Baron, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Wollavyngton; at the presentation of John Ferneys.

90. Jan. 3, 1426-27. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Thomas Templer, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Katharine in the parish church of All Saints, Nony, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Geyt; at the presentation of Walter Hungerforde, lord of Farley and of Homet.

91. As above. He instituted Sir William Geyte, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Stratton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Stephen Chapman; at the presentation of John, lord of Typtoft and of Powys.

92. Jan. 3. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Stephen Chapman, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Chardelynych, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Templer; at the presentation of Amice Malet, lady of Corypole.

93. Jan. 15. London. He instituted Sir Robert Deneys, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Orchard, at the presentation of Philip Cary, esquire.

94. Jan. 18. London. He instituted Nicholas Carent, clerk, as warden of the free chapel of Kyngeston; at the presentation of William Carent, esquire, patron for this turn.

Fol. 22*v*.

95. Dec. 15, 1426. London. The bishop by force of a writ of the king dated at Westminster, 17 November, 5 Henry VI., appointed the abbot and convent of Muchilney collectors of a half tenth granted to the king in the convocation of the province of Canterbury celebrated in the church of St. Paul, London, from 15 to 27 April last.

[The writ is worded as the writ No. 58 *mutatis mutandis*.<sup>1426-7.</sup> The treasurer and barons of the Exchequer are to be certified of Fol. 23. the names of the collectors by Christmas.]

96. Deputacio apparitoris generalis.

Johannes etc. episcopus dilecto in christo filio Petro Colle salutem etc. De tua fidelitate et circumspeccionis industria plurimum confidentes te in apparitorem nostrum generalem per totam nostram diocesim preficimus per presentes dantes tibi potestatem quoscumque infra dictam nostram diocesim delinquentes de jure vel de consuetudine citandos sive ex officio mero vel promoti seu ad instanciam parcium citandi quociens et quando opus fuerit; ac certificatoria hujusmodi citacionum debite faciendi ulteriusque exequendi et exercendi omnia et singula que ad apparitorem generalem in eadem diocese expediri fuerint et sint consueta presentibus ad vite tue terminum duraturis Proviso quod in eodem apparitoris officio legitimo impedimento cessante personaliter deservias. In cujus etc. Data in manerio nostro de Woky xxvii<sup>o</sup> die mensis Marcii, 1427, et nostre consecracionis anno secundo.

97. Jan. 25, 1426-27. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Abell, chaplain, in the person of Sir Nicholas Abell, chaplain, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Penne; at the presentation of Elizabeth Chuselden, relict of John Chuselden.

98. Jan. 30. London. He instituted Sir John Carter, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the free chapel of Claverham; at the presentation of Walter Hungerford, lord of Farley and of Homet. And a letter was written to Master Thomas Circestre, Fol. 23<sup>d</sup>. canon of Wells and perpetual vicar of the parish church of Yatton, for his induction.

99. Feb. 5. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Chamberleyn, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Shepton Montagu; at the presentation of the prior and convent of the conventual church of Bruton.

1427.

100. Feb. 6. London. He instituted Sir John Holcote, chaplain, in the person of Richard Culmelonde, literate, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Pokyngton; at the presentation of William Bonevill, knight.

101. Collation by the bishop to Master John Sterthwayt, canon of the cathedral church of Wells, of the precentorship in the said church; and institution and investment of him. Dated in his inn at London, 10 February, 1426-27.

Mandate to the dean or the subdean or the president of the chapter, and the chapter, to assign to him or his proctor the stall in the choir and the place in the chapter due to the precentorship, and to induct him or his proctor. Dated as above.

102. As above. The bishop collated Master John Bernard, bachelor in decrees, to the succentorship in the same church; and instituted and invested him.

Fol. 24.

103. Feb. 12. London. There was received a certificate of Sir John Prentys, dean of the royal free chapel of Westminster, upon the bishop's commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Master William Welbourne, canon and prebendary in that chapel, and Thomas Morton, canon in the conventual church of Wherewell of the diocese of Winchester, and prebendary of Bathewyk in the same of the diocese of Bath and Wells, shewing that he has instituted the said Master John (*sic*) to the said canonry and prebend at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Wherewell; and on receipt of his oath of obedience a letter was written to the archdeacon of Bath for his induction.

104. Feb. 12. London. The bishop instituted Sir William Maryot, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Sutton Byngham; at the presentation of Roger Wyke.

105. As above. He instituted Sir John Lane, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Cory Malet; at the presentation of John, lord of Typtoft and of Powys.



106. Feb. 13. London. He instituted William Diolet to <sup>1427.</sup> the third portion of the parish church of Crukern; at the presentation of the king as well as of Hugh Lutterell, knight, Master Thomas Hendeman, John Fortescu, Henry Fortescu, Richard Bampfeld and William Dawney, feoffees of the lands and advowsons of churches Hugh, late earl of Devon, as well in Somerset as in other counties, asserting themselves to be the true patrons of the said third portion.

107. Feb. 24. London. He collated Sir John Hay, chaplain, to the parish church of Gotehull, in his collation by lapse; and instituted him as rector therein.

108. Feb. 26. London. He collated Sir John Hillier, canon of Wells, to the canon's house late of Master John Storthwayt, precentor of Wells.

109. March 21. Dogmersfeld manor. He collated Roger Corndon, clerk, to a canonry and the prebend of Cory in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted and invested him.

110. March 21. Dogmersfeld manor. In furtherance of an <sup>Fol. 247.</sup> exchange of benefices between Master John Stone, rector of the parish church of Monketon, and Sir Roger Wodehill, rector of the parish church of Strete, the bishop instituted Sir Roger in the church of Monketon, and Master John in the church of Strete, both at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury.

SEQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCCC<sup>mus</sup> VICESIMUS  
SEPTIMUS.

111. March 26. Woky manor. The bishop instituted Sir John Holgoth, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Staunton Drewe; at the presentation of Master Roger Harewell, archdeacon of Bath.

112. April 6. Glastonbury monastery. In furtherance of a commission of Edmund, bishop of Exeter, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Laurence Wyllyng, rector of the parish

1427. church of Asshebritell, and Thomas Storke, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Axmouth, of the diocese of Exeter, bishop John instituted Sir Laurence to the vicarage of Axmouth at the presentation of the abbess and convent of the monastery of St. Saviour and SS. Mary and Bride, Syon, of him to the said bishop of Winchester (*sic*); and Sir Thomas to the church of Ashbritell, at the presentation of Nicholas Hille, donzel.

Fol. 25. 113. April 4. Wells palace. The bishop instituted Sir John Mark, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Brokley, at the presentation of William Gascoyn.

114. April 6. Glastonbury monastery. He collated William Scholer, chaplain, to the perpetual chantry at the altar in honour of Corpus Christi in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted him.

115. April 10. Muchelney monastery. A certificate of Master John Symondesburgh, bachelor in laws, archdeacon of Wilts, and guardian of the spirituality of the void see of Salisbury, upon the bishop's commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Wolff, rector of the parish church of Aungerlegh *alias* Knyghteslegh, and Richard Brebbs, rector of the parish church of Tarente Antioche of the diocese of Salisbury, shewing that he has instituted Sir Richard in the church of Aungerlegh, at the presentation of Richard Chedder, esquire; and on receipt of his oath of canonical obedience, it was written to the archdeacon of Taunton for his induction.

116. April 10. Ivelchestre. In furtherance of an exchange of benefices between Sirs Robert Bochar, rector of the parish church of Monksilver, and John Prestcote, rector of the parish church of Northstoke, the bishop instituted Sir John to the church of Monksilver, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Goldcliffe of the diocese of Llandaff; and Sir Robert to the church of Northstoke, at the presentation of the prior and convent of the cathedral church of Bath.

Fol. 25*d*. 117. April 11. Dicheyate. The bishop instituted Sir John Kyngeston, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Kyngton Maundevely; at the presentation of John Jerard, esquire.

118. April 15. Bruton priory. He instituted Sir Thomas <sup>1427.</sup> Forde, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Brempton; at the presentation of John Wynford, esquire.

119. April 17. Wells palace. He instituted Sir Richard Clerk, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Barton; at the presentation of John Shelford, canon and prebendary of Barton in the cathedral church of Wells.

120. A commission of bishop John to Masters John Storthwayth, precentor, and Thomas Bubbewith, archdeacon of Wells, to receive the canonical purgation of John Sartere, clerk, lately of Shirborne, co. Dorset, convicted at Wells on the feast of SS. Philip and James, 7 Henry V., before William Botreaux, knight, and John Stourton, two of the justices of the peace in the county of Somerset, of having, when detained in the king's prison of Ivelchestre for divers felonies, by conspiracy with others in the prison, broken out of it on Wednesday before Easter in the said year, who by the liberty of clergy was adjudged to be delivered to the bishop's prison, wherein he still is; and who asserts that he is innocent. Petition has been made on his behalf to the bishop, but he being hindered by important business cannot attend to these matters. The commissioners are to make proclamation in the cathedral church of Wells, the parish church of St. Cuthbert, Wells, and other places if expedient for his accusers or opposers of his purgation to appear before them, and if none appear to admit his purgation, deliver him out of prison and restore him <sup>Fol. 26.</sup> to his former good report; certifying the bishop of all the process had before them herein by letters patent under an authentic seal containing the series of these and of all that they have done. Dated at Woky April 24.

121. May 10. London. The bishop instituted Sir Nicholas Fraunceys, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the parish church of Combeflory; at the presentation of Alice Fraunceys, daughter and heir of Nicholas Hebe.

122. May 31. London. He collated Sir Thomas Hunden, chaplain, to the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Cherde, and instituted him in the same.

1427.  
Fol. 26  
contd. to  
29d.

123. Commutacio, fundacio, sive ereccio ecclesie parochialis de Northcadbury, in novum collegium.

Letters of the bishop notifying that he has received the king's letters patent, dated at Westminster, December 18, 2 Henry VI [*Calendar of the Patent Rolls*, 1422, pp. 189, 190] granting licence for Elizabeth, lady of Botreaux, and William, now lord of Botreaux, chivaler, to change the parish church of North Cadbury, built by the same Elizabeth, into a collegiate church, and establish therein a perpetual college of seven chaplains, of whom one shall be over the others, have the governance of the college and the cure of souls there, and be called the rector of the college of St. Michael the Archangel, North Cadbury; and for the alienation in mortmain to the college, of lands by persons named; and that on petition since made to him by the said Elizabeth and William, patrons of the church, to give effect to such letters, he having taken counsel with the dean and chapter of Wells and the prior and convent of Bath, and obtained all necessary consents, decrees, with the licence of William, bishop of London, in whose diocese he is at the time, of making such decree, that the said church shall be changed into a collegiate church of seven chaplains as above, with four clerks, to celebrate therein for the good estate of the said king, and Elizabeth and William and their benefactors and friends, for the soul of the king after his decease, for the soul of the late king, his father, and for the souls of Elizabeth and William when they are gone from this light, as well as for the soul of Sir William, sometime lord of Botreaux, late husband of the said Elizabeth, and the souls of his relations, ancestors, friends and benefactors, according to the ordinance of Elizabeth and William, now lord of Botreaux; and he establishes such college accordingly. Further he ordains, with the assent of the said patrons of the church, that Sir Richard Wyche, late and last rector of the church of North Cadbury, shall be rector of the present collegiate church, and institutes him, after that he had renounced before him the right and title which he had in the church while it was a parish church, as first rector of the same, without his having to make resignation of such late parish church into the bishop's hands. He decrees that Sirs Thomas Luffying and Walter Bysley, chaplains, nominated to the college by the said patrons shall be received in and to the same and admits

them as the first chaplains. All clerks admitted to the college 1427. shall swear obedience to the rector and to observe the statutes and ordinances of the college. The present patrons shall have for life the right of presentation of the rector, and after their decease, the priests and clerks of the collegiate church assembled in their chapter house shall elect, within two months from the time of any vacancy, one of the chaplains to be rector, and send him to the then lord of North Cadbury, patron of the college, to present to the diocesan. If the chaplains and clerks cannot agree in any election, they shall send the names and surnames of the persons so nominated in disagreement to the lord of North Cadbury, who shall present such of the nominated as on his conscience he shall think best fitted for the rule, but none shall be presented to the said collegiate church but from the lap of the college. If through disagreement, negligence or carelessness, the office remain vacant for one month the lord of North Cadbury shall take one of the chaplains and present him to the diocesan to be canonically titled in the same church; and if he do not present within one month, the bishop, or, if the see be vacant, the dean and chapter of Wells shall appoint. The rector and chaplains shall have all rights of a collegiate church, with a common seal and a chapter house; but the right of altering the statutes and ordinances is reserved to the bishop. The rector and chaplains shall pay yearly to the dean and chapter of Wells 6*s.* 8*d.* as an indemnity for loss of fruits of the said church in times of vacancy. The tenour of the aforesaid licence of William, bishop of London, follows: dated in his palace at London, 21 June, 1427; and lest any doubt hereafter arise touching the king's letters patent and the licence of the bishop of London and in view of the perils which may come upon the rector and chaplains for not producing the same bishop John, at the supplication of the aforesaid patrons and Robert Wyche, decrees that the tenours of these as written herein are true. Dated in his inn at London, 16 June, 1427.

Confirmation of the foregoing by John Forest, dean, and the chapter of Wells. Dated in their chapter house, so far as concerns the affixing of their seal, on the — day of the month of —, 1427.

The like, by William Southwood, prior, and the convent, of

1427. the cathedral church of Bath. Institution by the bishop of Richard Wyche as rector of the said college.

Fol. 29<sup>d</sup>  
cont. to  
Fol. 32<sup>d</sup>.

124. Chantry founded in the parish church of Ichestoke. April 24. Woky manor. The bishop makes known to all that he has inspected and confirmed a deed of William Paulet of Beer, co. Somerset, reciting that he has established a perpetual chantry of one chaplain within the hamlet of Ichestoke, in a new chapel in honour of St. Mary, lately founded by him by the ancient chapel of St. Mary, Ichistoke, on the north side of the same, where the body of Margaret his wife lies buried, which it is his wish shall be called in the Latin idiom "Cantaria Willelmi Paulet de Beere" and in the English tongue "William Paulet of Beere Chauntry"; and grants for the sustenance of the chaplain and his successors three messuages, 4½ acres of land, 16½ acres of meadow, 3 acres of pasture, 5 acres of wood and 1*d*. of rent, in Edeston, Stoke-cursy, Pederham by Combewythe, Seternemete, Ichestoke et Canyngton in the same county. The said chaplain, who shall be called in the vulgar tongue "William Paulettes priest," shall dwell in a house lately built by the grantor in Ichestoke, within parish of Canyngton, which, with the garden and close adjoining, he assigns to him and his successors in the chantry for a dwelling, to be maintained at their charges. It is his will also that the same chaplain and his successors abstain altogether from any cure, ministrations, secular offices, huntings and public business, stipends or salaries, and all other matters which may give occasion for wandering or absence, that they may better attend on divine offices; that they celebrate for him daily in the said new chapel of St. Mary, mass of the Virgin Mary, except in time of the absence granted to them in the ordinance, or of sickness, and as long as he lives and is present at Ichestoke they shall be bound to wait for him, and when he is dead for his heir, if present at Ichestoke, at any rate until 10 o'clock, before they presume to begin the mass. Then follow directions as to the service, prayers, etc., to be used; and, that in the beginning of the mass after the confession and absolution the chaplain shall say in the vulgar tongue in the hearing of those present, with modesty nevertheless, the Lord's Prayer and a Hail Mary for the happy expedition and prosperous state of William Paulet, the founder of

the chapel, and, when he is dead, for his soul, for the souls of 1427.  
Margaret his wife, John Paulet and Elizabeth, parents, and the other ancestors and progenitors of the said William, as well as for the souls of Thomas Fychet, knight, lately deceased, Ricarda, formerly his wife, and Robert Hill and Isabel, lately his wife, and for the good and happy state of John Hille, Cecily his wife, John Stourton, father of the said Cecily, Hugh Cary, and William Dodesham, and for their souls when they depart this life. Then follow general directions "to prayers to be used in the service, etc., and directions for the celebrations every year of the anniversary day of the grantor's death, as well as of the anniversary days of Margaret his late wife, John and Elizabeth his parents, and the others specially named above, always on the feast of St Margaret the Virgin. The chaplains shall keep up and repair the said chapel and the mansion assigned for the chaplain there at their own charges and keep the missal, breviary and other books, the chalice, jewels, vestments, ornaments and all other goods now or hereafter given to the chantry, and repair the same when necessary at their own charges, and when these are worn out or taken away, provide others as good or better. Within two months of his obtaining possession of the chapel, the chaplain shall make an inventory indented between him and the founder or his heir of all movables belonging to the chantry, at the charges of the chaplain; who shall find daily at his own charges a man or boy, bread, wine and wax, to serve him at the mass, and the necessary lights for the chantry. If the chaplain be ever away from Ichestoke more than six weeks, or commit waste in the woods or lands, the chantry is to be declared vacant. As often as the chantry fall vacant, the founder and his heirs shall present; and if they do not within four months it shall be lawful for the aforesaid John Hill, Esquire, now lord of the manor of Spaxton, his heirs or assigns, to present, within two months of the lapse, and if they do not, the collation shall lapse to the bishop for this turn. Then follow provisions in case of partition of the founder's property at any future time; for taking of the oaths of obedience to the bishop and of due observance of the same. Dated 20 August, 4 Henry VI. [1426.]

June 28. London. The bishop instituted Sir Thomas Spreth, chaplain, in the person of Master Robert Grout, notary

1427. public, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry founded in the parish church of Ichistoke; at the presentation of William Paulet of Bere, esquire, founder of that chantry.

Fol. 32d  
cont.

125. JOHN FOREST, dean of WELLS, to bishop JOHN, 1427. 30 March, Wells. He received, on 27 February last, the bishop's letter dated in his inn at London, 14 February, citing him and all persons of the chapter and the church of Wells to appear before the bishop in the chapter house of Wells on Monday after the Annunciation, the last day of March next, and following days, for his visitation; and by authority of such mandate he has cited all persons in dignities, etc., in the cathedral church who are bound to attend the bishop's visitation, to be present as above. The schedule annexed (*not entered*) contains the names and surnames of those cited.

Fol. 33.

WILLIAM, prior of the cathedral church of Bath, to THE SAME, April 20, Bath priory. He received, on 24 March last, the bishop's letter, dated in his inn at London, on 1 March last, announcing that, in his visitation as ordinary in his cities and diocese he intends to hold a visitation of him and his priory, in the head as well as in the members, on Thursday the feast of SS. Philip and James, to wit 1 May next, and citing him and his monks and brethren to appear before him on that day in their chapter house; and by authority of such letter he has cited them accordingly. The names and surnames of those cited are written in a schedule annexed to these presents (*not entered*).

Fol. 33d.

JOHN HASARD, official of the archdeacon of Wells, to THE SAME, April 9, 1427, Ilchester. He received, on 27 March, the bishop's mandate of the tenour words which follows: Johannes etc. dilecto etc. archidiacono nostro Wellie seu ejus officiali salutem etc. Cura pastoralis officii nobis, licet immerito, commissi nos inducit ut submotis secularibus negociis quibus eramus hactenus multipliciter prepediti animarum nostrorum subditorum commodis et saluti, excusso a nobis negligencie sompno, oculo sedulo vigilantibus tocius nostre solitudinis studio intendamus. Hinc est quod nos archidiaconatum vestrum Wellie vosque abbates et priores ac clerum et populum ejusdem, tam in capite quam in membris, diebus et locis in cedula presentibus annexa contentis cum continuacione dierum sequentium, si oporteat, Domino



concedente cum caritate et mansuetudine auctoritate nostra <sup>1427.</sup> ordinaria intendimus visitare. Vobis igitur in virtute obediencie committimus et mandamus quatinus citetis seu citari faciatis peremptorie omnes et singulos abbates et priores, rectores et vicarios, dignitates vel beneficia ecclesiastica quecumque obtinentes, capellanosque parochiales sive stipendarios in archidiaconatu predicto divina celebrantes quoscumque, et presertim ordinationes et fundaciones cantariorum quaruncumque infra ambitum archidiaconatus vestri predicti prout quemlibet eorum cantarias inibi possidentes concernit, necnon de singulis parochiis octo, sex vel quatuor vicos fidedignos secundum magnitudinem et parvitatem cujuslibet parochie hujusmodi, super inquirenda ab eisdem noticiam meliorem obtinentes. Vos etiam tenore presencium citamus peremptorie quatinus personaliter compareatis et compareant coram nobis aut nostris in hac parte commissariis, canonicam obedienciam nobis vel commissariis nostris sive ministris nostris in forma juris prestituri, titulos dignitatum et beneficiorum suorum ac fundaciones et ordinationes cantariorum hujusmodi, necnon literas ordinum suorum, exhibituri et veras copias eorum penes nos et registrarium nostrum dimissuri, et de eisdem fidem plenariam facturi; dictique inquisitores veritatem quam noverint super inquirendis ab eis visitacionem nostram concernentibus dicturi, ulteriusque facturi et recepturi quod hujusmodi visitacionis officium exigit et requirit. Citetis etiam seu citari faciatis omnes et singulos qui in beneficiis suis non resident, ut tenentur, seu beneficia sua hujusmodi ad firmam dimittunt, necnon religiosos et alios quoscumque qui ecclesias seu quevis alia beneficia ecclesiastica infra archidiaconatum predictum existencia in usus proprios tanquam appropriata se habere, seu pensiones porciones aut decimas speciales in ecclesiis predictis se debere percipere, pretendunt quod dictis diebus et locis, quatenus etiam singulos concernunt, sufficienter et legitime compareant coram nobis aut commissariis nostris predictis dispensaciones canonicas, gracias, licencias seu justi quod habeant speciale in premissis evidencias exhibituri ulteriusque facturi et recepturi in ea parte quod canonice dictaverint sancções. Vobis etiam tenore presencium inhibemus et, per vos, decanis et aliis ministris vestris quibuscumque auctoritate nostra inhiberi volumus et mandamus, ne quicquam in prejudicium visitacionis

1427. nostre hujusmodi attemptetis vel attemptent, faciatis aut faciant aliquid aliter attemptari, sub pena sentencie excommunicationis majoris in contrarium facientes per vos canonice fulminande. Et (quod absit) in contrarium quid feceritis aut fecerint publice vel occulte per vos aut illos seu submissam personam illud exnunc prout extunc et extunc prout exnunc omnino revocamus et eciam cassamus et cassum et irritum fuisse et esse denunciamus per presentes. De diebus vero recepcionis presencium execucionisque vestre ac modo et forma ejusdem, et qui et ex qua causa fuerint ut premittitur evocati, in quadam cedula literis vestris certificatoriis pro quolibet decanatu archidiaconatus predicti per vos faciendis annectenda, nos vel commissarios nostros predictos singulis diebus et locis quibus decanatus predictus per nos vel commissarios nostros fuerint visitati, prout in dicta cedula exprimitur, satis clare certificetis per literas vestras patentes harum seriem continentes authentice sigillatas. Data in hospicio nostro Londonii primo die mensis Marcii anno domini 1426-27.

Fol. 34.

By authority of which mandate he has cited the rectors, etc., and all others that should be cited of the deaneries of Ilchestre, Merston and Cary, to appear as in the bishop's letter, at the days and places specified more fully in schedules attached severally to this certificate. Dated at Ilchestre, 9 April, 1427. And so there issued like letters to every archdeacon, abbot and prior throughout the whole diocese under the form aforesaid.

126. July 2. London. The bishop instituted Sir Alan Oliver, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Compton Dando; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath.

Fol. 34v.

127. A writ of the king to bishop John not to admit to the church of Compton Martyn, now vacant, until a contention between Stephen Abridge and John Speke touching the advowson thereof has been determined in the king's court. Witness the king at Westminster 14 May, 5 Henry VI.

Another writ to the bishop to admit to the said church at the presentation of John Speke and Joan his wife, who by writ of Quare impedit have recovered their presentation to the same against Stephen Abridge and Richard Walrond. Witness W. Cheyne at Westminster, 7 July, 5 Henry VI.

July 13. London. The bishop, pursuant to the above writ, <sup>1427.</sup> instituted William Roucestre, clerk, as rector of the said church at the presentation of John Speke.

128. July 20. London. He instituted Sir John Metene, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Kynwardeston, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Saviour's, Barmondese, of the diocese of Winchester.

129. As above. He instituted Sir Thomas Wellis, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Lokkeston ; at the presentation <sup>Fol. 35.</sup> of William, lord of Lovell.

130. July 20. London. He instituted Sir Walter Harris, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Castalcary ; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath.

131. July 26. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Bray, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Cloford ; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham.

132. Aug. 3. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Hugh Hasard, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Hardyngton ; at the presentation of the same abbot and convent.

133. Aug. 14. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Master Nicholas Upton, bachelor of both laws, in the person of Sir John Waleys, chaplain, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Chedesey, vacant by the resignation of Master John Slape, master in arts ; at the presentation of Thomas de Monte Acuto, earl of Salisbury, count of Perche, and lord of Monthermer.

134. As above. He instituted Sir Ralph Holewale, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Knyghtesley ; at the presentation of Richard Chedder, esquire, of Thornfaucon, co. Somerset.

135. Aug. 24. Woky manor. He instituted Sir Robert <sup>Fol. 35d.</sup> Wille, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry in the parish church of Estcoker ; at the presentation of Philip Courtenay, lord of the manor of Estcoker.

1427.

136. Aug. 25. Woky manor. He instituted Sir Thomas Keynesham, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Hampton by Bath at the presentation of the prior and chapter of the cathedral church of Bath.

Fol. 36.

137. A dispensation of the bishop, granted by authority of letters of Jordan, bishop of Albano, the pope's penancer, dated at Rome at the Sancta Maria Major, 6 non. Octobris, 6 Martin V, to Robert Wegge, clerk, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, born of a priest and a single woman, that notwithstanding such defect of birth, he may be advanced to all orders and may legally hold an ecclesiastical benefice, even one with cure of souls. Dated in Woky manor, 25 August, 1427.

138. Sept. 19. Bruton priory. The bishop instituted Sir John Rede, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Sampford Arundell; at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Canonlegh of the diocese of Exeter.

139. Sept. 19. Bruton priory. In furtherance of an exchange of benefices between Sirs Robert Catour, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Wynscombe, and Thomas Brunyng, rector of the parish church of Cosyngton; bishop John instituted Sir Robert to the church of Cosyngton; at the presentation of John Trethek, esquire; and Sir Thomas, to the vicarage of Wynscombe, at the presentation of the dean and chapter of Wells.

140. Sept. 25. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Reynold Carleton, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Norton Malreward, at the presentation of Thomas Rigge, esquire; and a letter was written for his induction to the perpetual vicar of Chiew of the bishop's peculiar jurisdiction.

141. Oct. 11. London. He instituted Sir John Smok, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Oke, at the presentation of Thomas Stowell, knight, Eleanor Hulle, John Hille, clerk, Hugh Cary and Roger Huswyfe.

Fol. 36d.

142. Oct. 11. London. The bishop instituted Sir Robert Ridelred, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Chiltren Dummer; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

143. Oct. 11. London. A commission went out to Master <sup>1427.</sup> John Storthwayth to institute Sir Thomas Welyngton, chaplain, in the perpetual chantry to the parish church of Nony; at the presentation of Walter Hungerford, lord of Haytesbury and of Homet.

144. Oct. 18. London. The bishop instituted Sir William Morys, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Trente; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Stodelegh, Thomas Beauchamp, knight, and John Botreaux, esquire.

145. Nov. 9. London. The bishop collated Thomas Humfrey, clerk, to a canonry and the prebend of Wedmor quinta in the cathedral church of Wells, and instituted and invested him.

146. Nov. 1. London. He instituted Sir Richard Hendy as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Haselbere; at the presentation of Richard Aldryngton, canon, and prebendary of Haselbere.

147. Nov. 25. London. He instituted Sir John Dunn, chap- <sup>Fol. 37.</sup>lain, as rector of the parish church of Middelchynnok; at the presentation of Humphrey Stafford, knight.

147A. Commission of William, bishop of London, to bishop John, to exercise ordinary jurisdiction in any place in the city and diocese of London as if he were in his own city and diocese. Dated under his seal in his palace at London, 18 November, 1427, the first year of his consecration.

148. Nov. (*sic*) 1. London. Bishop John instituted Sir John Chestre, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of St. Margaret the Virgin, Wyke Peram; at the presentation of John Baylly and Katharine his wife.

149. Dec. 5. London. In furtherance of a commission of Richard, bishop of Lincoln, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Saly, chaplain of the chantry of St. John the Baptist, Southpederton, and William More, rector of the parish church of

1427. Broxholm of the diocese of Lincoln, bishop John instituted Sir John to the said church and Sir William to the chantry, both at the presentation of Sir Giles Dawbeney, knight.

Fol. 37<sup>v</sup>. 150. Dec. 6. London. The bishop collated Sir Alan Humberston, chaplain, to a canonry and the prebend of Wandestre in the cathedral church of Wells, and instituted and invested him.

151. Dec. 10. London. He instituted Sir John Lane, chaplain, as rector or prebendary of the prebendal church of Bathe-wyk; at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Wherwell of the diocese of Winchester.

152. Dec. 17. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir John Stevenes, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Lamyate; at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Godestowe of the diocese of Lincoln.

153. Dec. 20. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Robert Gosse, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Crich; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute of the Cluniac order.

154. Dec. 5. London. The bishop collated Master Peter Stukeley to a canonry and the prebend of Dultecote in the cathedral church of Wells, and instituted and invested him.

Fol. 38. 155. Jan. 1, 1427-28. Dogmersfeld manor. In furtherance of a commission of Edmund, bishop of Exeter, for an exchange of benefices between Masters Thomas Hendeman, prebendary of the prebend of Heyghes of the diocese of Exeter, and Walter Colles, rector of the parish church of Crukehorn, bishop John instituted and invested Master Walter to the said prebend, at the king's presentation; and instituted Master Thomas to the church of Crukern, at the presentation of Hugh Lutterell, knight, William Dawney, Richard Bampfeld and Henry Fortescu, feoffers of Sir Hugh de Courtenay, late earl of Devon.

156. Jan. 9. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Sir John Dobbay, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Alre, at the presentation of William Botreaux, lord of Botreaux.

157. Jan. 11. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Thomas Frome, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry in the parish church of Estcoker; at the presentation of Philip Courtenay, esquire. 1428.

158. Jan. 19. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir William Cogan, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Taunton; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton.

159. Jan. 23. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Short, *alias* Yate, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Staunton Priour; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath.

160. Jan. 30. London. He collated Master Thomas Warde, doctor of decrees, to the archdeaconry of Bath in the cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the resignation of Master Roger Harwell, and instituted and invested him. Fol. 38d.

161. A dispensation by the bishop, by authority of letters of Jordan, bishop of Albano, the pope's penancer, dated at Rome at the Holy Apostles, 3 id. October, 10 Martin V, to John Grene, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, priest, born of a priest and a single woman—who believing that he had a dispensation by apostolic letters, since found to be forged, was to be advanced to all holy orders and to obtain a benefice, even with cure, and who since the discovery of the forgery has ceased from celebrating divine offices—in respect of all that he has done by authority of the forged letters, which the bishop has quashed and torn up; provided that he reside in person in his benefice. Dated in the bishop's inn at London, 10 December, 1427. Fol. 39.

161A. Feb. 15. London. The bishop granted to William Vyleris, acolyte, letters dimissory to all the greater orders.

162. Feb. 16. London. He granted to John Shobbay, having the first tonsure, of the diocese of Bath, letters dimissory to all orders.

163. Decree of the bishop assigning a pension of 10 marks out of the prebendal church of Bathewyke to Master John

1428. Welbourne, late canon of the conventual church of Wherwell and prebendary of Bathewyk; made with the consent of Sir John Lane, the present prebendary. Dated in the bishop's inn at London, 2 February, 1427-28.

Fol. 39<sup>d</sup>. 164. Feb. 20. London. The bishop instituted Sir William Bakere, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Barton; at the presentation of John Shelford, canon and prebendary of Barton in the church of Wells, and a letter was written to the dean of Wells or his commissary for his induction.

165. Feb. 29. London. The bishop collated Sir Richard Dun, chaplain, to the perpetual chantry dedicated at the altar in honour of Corpus Christi in the church of Wells; and instituted him.

166. March 6. London. He instituted Master Andrew Lanbyan, bachelor in laws, as portioner of the second portion in the parish church of Crukern, vacant by the resignation of Master John Welbourne; at the presentation of Anne, countess of Devon.

Fol. 40. Testimonial letter of the official of the archdeacon of Taunton notifying that by authority of letters of the bishop, dated in his inn at London, 6 March, 1427-28, he has inducted the same Master Andrew into the said portion. Dated at Crukern, 27 March, 1428.

167. March 12, 1427-28. The bishop instituted Sir William Sholer as perpetual chaplain of the chantry at the altar of St. Kalixtus in the cathedral church of Wells, founded for the soul of Henry Husee, sometime dean of Wells; at the presentation of the dean and chapter.

SEQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCC<sup>mus</sup> VICESIMUS  
OCTAVUS

168. March 26. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Boys, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Pyt-mynstre, *alias* Pipmynstre; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton.



169. March 30. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir <sup>1428.</sup> Robert Julian, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Ronyng-ton; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton.

169A. April 8. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir John Westeley, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Estpennard; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury.

170. April 8. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir John Scalon, chaplain, in the person of Richard Towkere, clerk, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Scapewyk; at the presentation of the same abbot and convent.

171. April 15. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir John Kermerdyn, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of St. Decuman at the presentation of Master David Price, canon and prebendary of St. Decumans aforesaid in the church of Wells. And a letter was written to the dean for his induction.

172. April 15. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir John Elys, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Kydmore (*in the margin*, Kydnore); at the presentation of Thomas Bratton, esquire.

173. April 30. London. He instituted John Smyth, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Lutton; at the presentation of Joan Brook, relict of Sir Thomas Brook, knight.

174. May 9. London. He instituted Sir William Ferrour, <sup>Fol. 41.</sup> chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Samford Arundell; at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Canonlegh.

175. May 15. London. He instituted Sir John Towkere, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Tyntenhull; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute.

1428.

176. May 16. London. He instituted Sir William Radslo, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Tolaund; at the presentation of the prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

177. May 18. London. He instituted Sir John Swygishays, *alias* Baker, as rector of the parish church of Shepham; at the presentation of William, lord of Botreaux.

178. June 8. London. He instituted Sir William Parker, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Ore; at the presentation of Richard Kelly, esquire, lord of Ore.

179. July 11. London. He collated Sir John Birkhede, chaplain, to a canonry and the prebend of Tymbrescombe in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted and invested him.

180. July 18. London. He instituted Sir John Bowlegh, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Mysterton; at the presentation of Anne, countess of Devon.

Fol. 41*v*.

181. June 12, 1428. London. A certificate of Robert, bishop of Salisbury, upon a commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Masters Thomas Hendeman, professor of sacred theology, rector of the church of the first portion of Crukern, and John Odelande, bachelor in decrees, rector of the parish church of Southperet, of the diocese of Salisbury, was received, shewing that he has accordingly instituted Master John to the first portion aforesaid, at the presentation of Richard Aldryngton, clerk, John Fortescu, William Dawny, Henry Fortescu and Richard Bamfeld, of the diocese of Exeter, patrons of the church of the said portion, and enfeofed in the said manor (with others since deceased) by Sir Hugh Courtenay, late earl of Devon and lord of the manor; and on receipt of the oath of obedience the said Master John, a letter was written to the archdeacon of Taunton for his induction.

182. July 16. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Barbour, chaplain, in the person of Sir Robert Parfite, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Compton Pauncefot; at the presentation of Walter Pauncefot, esquire.

183. Aug. 7. London. A certificate of the prior and <sup>1428.</sup> chapter of Bath upon the bishop's commission to them for an exchange of benefices between Sir Robert Culmy, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Chewton, and Thomas Short, rector of the parish church of St. Michael, without the north gate of Bath, of their peculiar jurisdiction, was received, shewing that they have accordingly instituted Sir Thomas to the said vicarage at the presentation of the prior and convent of the house of Jesus of Bethlem, Shene, of the Carthusian order; and on receipt of <sup>Fol. 42.</sup> his oath of obedience a letter was written to the archdeacon of Wells for his induction.

184. Aug. 31. Banewell manor. The bishop instituted Sir Thomas Bregman, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Bergh supra Mare, at the presentation of Master Thomas Bubbewith, archdeacon of Wells, and forthwith, at the instant petition of Master John Daventre, proctor of Sir John Shopyn, the resigning vicar, and with the consent of the patron and present vicar, the bishop decreed a pension of 5 marks to the outgoing vicar, to be paid half-yearly by the present vicar.

185. As above. The bishop instituted Sir Nicholas Warminster as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Mydelton, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

186. Sept. 15. Glastonbury monastery. He instituted Sir John Hals, *alias* Leggy, of Hals, as rector of the parish church of Kydnore; at the presentation of Thomas Bratton, esquire.

187. Sept. 16. Woky manor. He instituted Sir William Clive, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of All Saints, Dulverton; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton.

188. Sept. 18. Woky manor. He instituted Sir William Cheyny, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of St. Decuman; at the presentation of Master David Price, canon of Wells, etc. (*as above*).

1428.

Fol. 42*d*.

189. Sept. 21. Woky manor. He instituted Sir William Woky, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Alludford, of Simon Raley, esquire, lord of Alludford, and forthwith he assigned a pension of 4 marks to the late rector, to be paid quarterly by the present rector.

190. As above. He collated Sir Maurice Jones, chaplain, to the parish church of Chelworth, and instituted him as rector therein.

191. Sept. 24. Woky manor. He instituted Sir Walter Alexander as perpetual vicar of the parish (*in the margin*, prebendal) church of Pilton, at the presentation of Master John Storthwayt, precentor of the cathedral church of Wells. And a letter was written to the guardian of the peculiar jurisdiction of Pilton for his induction.

192. Sept. 28. Southwick. He instituted John Mewe, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Twyverton; at the presentation of the prioress and convent of Mynchynkton.

193. As above. He instituted Sir Richard Warrok, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Saltford; at the presentation of Walter Hungerford, lord of Haytesbury and of Homet.

Fol. 43.

194. Oct. 5. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted John Grene, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Canyngton; at the presentation of the prioress and convent of Canyngton.

195. Oct. 7. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Thomas Samford, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Thornecoffyn; at the presentation of John Stourton of Preston, esquire.

196. Nov. 7. London. He instituted Sir John Oke, chaplain in the person of John Cammell, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Kynwardeston; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Saviour's, Barmondsey.

197. Nov. 11. London. He instituted Sir Philip Torre, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Kylveton; at the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath,

198. As above. He instituted Sir John Martyn, chaplain, as <sup>1428.</sup> rector of the parish church of Charlecombe ; at the presentation of Thomas Rigge.

199. Nov. 12. London. He instituted Sir John Gardener, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Compton Episcopi ; at the presentation of Master John Hody, canon and prebendary of Compton Episcopi in the cathedral church of Wells.

200. Nov. 12. London. He instituted Robert Cooke, *alias* Fol. 43<sup>d</sup>. Plomer, clerk, as rector of the parish church of Holeford ; at the presentation of the king.

201. Nov. 28. London. He instituted Sir Richard Hyndeborh, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Crisshton ; at the presentation of Robert Pokeswell, esquire.

202. Dec. 18. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Henry Bulke, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Charleton Adam ; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

203. *Licencia ad celebrandum ordines et ad exercendum jurisdictionem episcopalem infra diocesim Wyntoniensem.*

Henricus miseratione divina titulo Sancti Eusebii sacrosancte Romane ecclesie presbiter cardinalis, de Anglia vulgariter nuncupatus, per universam Germaniam, Bohemie et Hungarie regna apostolice sedis et in causa fidei per universum orbem legatus, Wyntoniensisque episcopus, venerabili confratri nostro Johanni Dei gracia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo salutem et fraternam in Domino caritatem. Ut in capella vestra infra manerium vestrum de Dogmersfeld, nostre Wyntoniensis diocesis, ordines celebrare quoscumque singulis temporibus quatuor temporum in futuro ac jurisdictionem vestram episcopalem inter vestros subditos solum et insolidum libere exercere, acsi in vestra propria diocese personaliter fueritis, valeatis vobis tenore presentium licenciam concedimus specialem ad nostrum beneplacitum tantummodo duraturam. Data in hospitio nostro juxta prioratum Beate Marie de Southwerk ix<sup>o</sup> die mensis Decembris, 1428.

1429.

204. Jan. 20. 1428-29. Dogmersfeld. Bishop John instituted Sir Gregory Ryppe, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Estham ; at the presentation of Sir John Seyncler.

Fol. 44.

205. Jan. 23. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Bray, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Newton Seynlowe ; at the presentation of William Botreaux, lord of Botreaux.

Fol. 44<sup>v</sup>.

Decree of the bishop assigning to Master Adam Usk, late rector of the above church, who through old age and long-standing incurable infirmities has resigned the same, a pension of 10*l*. for life out of the oblations, tithes and profits of that church. And Sir Thomas Bray, now as above instituted, and other succeeding rectors are to pay the same to him half-yearly at Midsummer and Christmas, in the monastery of St. Augustine, Bristol, on pain of the greater excommunication, if payment of the same be ever in default twelve days after any term of payment, of which twelve days the bishop assigns the first four for the first, the second four days for the second, and the remaining four days for the third and peremptory term. Every rector of the church in the lifetime of Master Adam, between institution and induction, shall make oath in the presence of a notary public and witnesses to observe the premises. Dated in the bishop's inn at London, 1428-29.

206. Jan. 26. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Masday, chaplain, in the person of Sir Thomas Well, chaplain, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Telesford ; at the presentation of Walter Hungerford, lord of Haytesbury and of Homet.

Fol. 45.

207. Jan. 25. London. In furtherance of a commission of Richard, bishop of Lincoln, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Lyly, rector of the parish church of Londey, of his diocese, and John Hertilpole, rector of the parish church of Melles, bishop John instituted the last-named to the church of Londey, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Caldeewell ; and Sir John Lyly to the church of Melles, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury.

208. Feb. 7. London. He instituted Sir John Lavendry, <sup>1429.</sup> chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Budcleygh; at the presentation of the same abbot and convent. And he assigned to Sir Thomas, the resigning vicar, a pension of 4 marks and a chamber on the north side of the dwelling-house of the vicarage.

209. Feb. 8. London. He instituted Sir Peter Grene, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Henstrigge; at the presentation of Master John Stokes, canon and prebendary of Henstrigge, in the church of Wells.

209A. Feb. 12. London. He instituted Sir John Bremell, chaplain, in the person of Sir Robert Parfit, chaplain, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Erneshull, at the presentation of the lady Margaret, duchess of Clarence and countess of Somerset and Albemarle.

210. March 7. Woky manor. He instituted Richard Parry, <sup>Fol. 45d.</sup> chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Southstoke; at the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath.

211. March 17. Woky manor. He instituted Sir Thomas Paye, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Pokyngton; at the presentation of William Bonevyle, knight.

212. March 11, 1428-29. 12 Martin V. In a low chamber or house of the registry in the manor of Woky, before Master Andrew Lanvyun the bishop's commissary by virtue of apostolic letters of Jordan, bishop of Albano, dated at the Holy Apostles, 4 kal. Aprilis, 10 Martin V, written below, specially deputed for what follows, sitting for judgement, present Robert Groute, notary public, one John Harewell, scholar, of the diocese, appeared in person and produced Henry Selwode, clerk, and John Wolley, literate, as witnesses to prove the things prayed for and contained in the said apostolic letters; on whose sworn testimony the commissary granted to the said John, born of a single man and a single woman, a dispensation in respect of his said illegitimacy, namely to be advanced to all orders and hold

1429. a benefice even with cure, witnesses Masters Richard Thomas and Nicholas Counsell, clerks, notaries public, by apostolic authority.

Fol. 46. 213. March 13. Woky manor. The bishop instituted Master Thomas Warde, doctor of decrees, in the person of Sir Thomas Goldebury, rector of the church of Prisshton, his proctor, to the vicarage of the parish church of Inglescombe; at the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath.

214. March 15. Woky manor. He collated Sir Robert Bugge, chaplain, to the chapel, with cure, of Eastlambrook, in his collation by lapse. And a letter was written to the official of the peculiar jurisdiction of Kyngesbury for his induction.

215. March 18. Woky manor. He instituted Sir Richard Bokyngham, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Penne; at the presentation of Elizabeth Shefelder.

216. March 22. Woky manor. He instituted Master Thomas Fitz William, bachelor in laws, as rector of the parish church of Sook; at the presentation of William Bonevile, knight.

217. March 24. Woky manor. He instituted Sir Henry Penberthy, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Northbarwe; at the presentation of William, lord of La Zouch, of Saymour, of Toteneys, and of Hardyngton.

Fol. 46*d*. 218. As above. He instituted Sir Thomas Somerton as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Chilterne; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

SEQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCC<sup>mus</sup> VICESIMUS  
NONUS.

219. April 1, 1429. Woky manor. The bishop instituted Master John Pederton, bachelor in sacred theology, as rector of the parish church of Southpederton; vacant by the resignation



of Sir John Wodeman; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton; and assigned a pension of 10 marks to the outgoing rector. <sup>1429.</sup>

220. Commission to Masters John Bathe, canon of Wells, and John Bernard, the bishop's commissary general, to institute Sir Walter Baylyf, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Obley, vacant by the resignation of the said Master John Bathe; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham; and to do all that is requisite in this behalf. Dated in his inn at London, 24 April, 1429.

221. April 19. London. The bishop instituted Henry Mylward, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Wrythlyngton, at the presentation of Master Alexander Sparwe, canon, <sup>Fol. 47.</sup> and prebendary of Wrythlyngton and Fordyngton, in the cathedral church of Salisbury.

222. April 30. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Vele, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Sutton Byngham; at the presentation of Roger Wyke, esquire, lord of Sutton Byngham.

223, May 5. London. He instituted Sir Walter Selfayn, chaplain, in the perpetual chantry, commonly called 'Seint Nicholas Chauntrye,' in the parish church of Frome; at the presentation of John Frome *alias* Twynyho. It was written for his induction to the vicar of Frome Braunche.

224. May 6. London. In furtherance of a commission of Richard, bishop of Lincoln, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Edmund Thrapston, rector of the parish church of Rympton, and Walter Wylcokkes, rector of the parish church of Welewys of the diocese of Lincoln, bishop John instituted Sir Edmund to the church of Welewys at the presentation of the prioress and convent of the house of St. John the Baptist, Halywell near London; reserving his induction and canonical obedience to his diocesan; and Sir Walter to the church of Rympton, at the presentation of Henry, bishop of Winchester, cardinal priest of St. Eusebius, commonly called of England, legate of the apostolic see in Germany, Hungary and Bohemia.

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Fol. 47d.

225. Notification by the bishop that inasmuch as the parish church of Standerwyk is moderately endowed and the fruits and profits thereof have decreased and become impoverished so that the rector of the church cannot be adequately maintained by these, as have been found by inquisition, he, at the request of the patrons, the abbot and convent of Cirencestre, has united the same, now vacant, to the parish church of Frome. Dated in his inn at London, 20 June, 1429.

*This union has been revoked with the consent of the vicar of Frome and the church of Standerwyk is brought back to its pristine state, see below fol. 126.*

226. May 13. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Roger Bradeway, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Benangre; at the presentation of Master Robert Keton, canon and prebendary of Whitechurch in the cathedral church of Wells. And he forthwith assigned to the said John, the resigning rector a pension of 40s.

Fol. 48.

227. June 18. London. In furtherance of a commission of Edmund, bishop of Exeter, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Duyn, rector of the parish church of Yddeford of his diocese, and John Shefter, chaplain of the chantry or free chapel of Wyke, the bishop instituted Sir John Shefter to the church of Yddeford, at the presentation of Sir John Arundell, knight; and Sir John Duyn to the chantry, at the presentation of John Bayly.

228. May 28. Keynsham. Master John Hody, by authority of the bishop by word of mouth, instituted Sir Thomas Gale, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Inglisscombe, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath.

229. June 23. London. In furtherance of a commission of William, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, for an exchange of benefices between Humphrey Rodeley, canon, and prebendary of Cudworth, in the cathedral church of Wells, and John Conge, canon, and prebendary of Offeley, in the cathedral church of Lichfield, bishop John collated Humphrey to the said canonry

and prebend in the church of Lichfield, and instituted and <sup>1429.</sup> invested him; reserving his induction and obedience to his diocesan; and John to the canonry and prebend in the church of Wells.

230. July 5. London. The bishop instituted Sir Richard Spryngold, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Cloford; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Mary's, Keynesham.

231. July 10. London. He collated Sir Thomas Clykke, <sup>Fol. 48d.</sup> chaplain, to the parish church of Chelworth; and instituted him as rector therein.

232. July 11. London. He instituted Sir Richard Peke, chaplain, as perpetual vicar in the church of Northover; at the presentation of the master and brethren of the hospital of Bruggewater.

233. July 14. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Bochier, chaplain, as rector of the church of Badyalton; at the presentation of Sir Thomas Stowell, knight, William Wynard, John Speke, John Signate and Thomas Hardyng, lords of Badyalton by feoffment of Sydenham.

234. Aug. 2. London. He instituted John Marsily, clerk, as rector of the parish church of Estludford; at the presentation of John Stourton the elder.

235. Aug. 9. Dogmersfeld manor. In futherance of a commission of Thomas, bishop of Worcester, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Roger Saxton, rector of the parish church of Merston Bygot by Frome, and Robert Tunstall, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Driffeld of the diocese of Worcester, bishop John instituted Sir Roger to the church of Driffeld and Sir Robert to the church of Merston Bigot, both at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Mary's, Cirencestre.

236. Aug. 2. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop appointed <sup>Fol. 49.</sup> the master and brethren of the hospital of Bruggewater to be

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collectors of a half tenth by force of a writ of the king of this tenour ;—Henricus etc. J. epō Bathoniensi et Wellensi, salutem. Cum vos ceterique prelati et clerus Cantuariensis provincie in convocacione quinto die mensis Julii ultimo preterito in ecclesia cathedrali Sancti Pauli Londoniensi inchoata, que adhuc sub prorogacione et continuacione ex certis causis pendit inexplata, concessit nobis ad defensionem regni Anglie et ecclesie Anglicane, sub modis, exceptionibus et condicionibus infrascriptis, medietatem unius decime de beneficiis, bonis et possessionibus ecclesiasticis dicte provincie taxatis et ad decimam solvere consuetis, solvendam ad festum Sancti Martini in Yeme proximo futuro videlicet anno domini 1429: Thornton Abbey, Lincolnshire, the Colleges of St. Mary, Winchester and Oxford, and the Carthusian House of Jesus of Bethlehem at Shene being excused. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium primo die Julii anno regni nostri septimo.

237. Aug. 19. Dogmersfeld manor. In furtherance of an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Symme, rector of the parish church of Cryketmalerbe, and Richard Peret, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Oldeclyve, the bishop instituted Sir Richard to the church of Cryketmalerbe, at the presentation of John Denham, donzel, and Sir John to the vicarage of Oldeclyve, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Clyve.

Fol. 50.

238. Aug. 23. London. A certificate of Robert, bishop of Salisbury, upon the bishop's commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Thomas Warr, rector of the parish church of Southperet of the diocese of Salisbury, and William Lane, rector of the parish church of Bokeland St. Mary, was received shewing that he had instituted Sir Thomas to the latter church, at the presentation of William Bonvyale, knight, and on receipt of his oath of obedience a letter was written to the archdeacon of Taunton for his induction.

239. Aug. 26. London. The bishop collated Master John Daventre, professor in sacred theology, to a canonry, and the prebend of Whitechurch, in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted and invested him.

240. Sept. 8. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Philip Jacob, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Wollavyngton, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Goldclyff of the diocese of Llandaff. 1429.

240A. Sept. 12. Dogmersfeld manor. In furtherance of an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Woodeward, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Long Sutton, and John Towkere, rector of the parish church of Tyntenhull, the bishop instituted the former to the church of Tyntenhull, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute, of the Cluniac order, and the latter to the vicarage of Long Sutton, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Athelney.

241. Sept. 14. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Robert Fynamour, clerk, as rector of the parish church of Radestoke; at the presentation of John Stourton the younger. Fol. 50d.

242. Sept. 17. Dogmersfeld. A certificate of Robert, bishop of Salisbury, upon the bishop's commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Robert Julian, rector of the parish church of Ronyngton, and William Modeford, rector of the parish church of Pillesdon, of the diocese of Salisbury, was received shewing that he has instituted Sir William to the church of Ronyngton, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton; and on receipt of the obedience of the said Sir William a letter was written to the archdeacon of Taunton for his induction.

243. Sept. 22. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Lye, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Compton Dando; at the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath.

244. Sept. 23. London. He instituted Sir Nicholas Thorpe, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Egforton; at the presentation of Richard Pameley, esquire.

1429. 245. Oct. 5. London. He instituted Sir William Taillour, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Sutton Montagu; at the presentation of Agnes, relict of John Montagu, esquire.

246. Oct. 25. London. He collated Master John Urry, to a canonry, and the prebend of Warmenystre *alias* Luxville, in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted and invested him.

Fol. 51. 247. Oct. 28. London. In furtherance of a commission of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Ellecombe, rector of the parish church of Kestane of his immediate jurisdiction, and William Ferroure, warden of the free chapel or chantry of Wyke, bishop John collated to Sir William the church of Kestane of the archbishop's collation and instituted him as rector, reserving, etc.; and instituted Sir John to the free chapel or chantry, at the presentation of John Bayly, esquire.

248. Nov. 20. London. The bishop instituted Sir Walter Roche, chaplain, as rector of the church of Combe Flory, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton.

249. Dec. 11. London. A certificate of the abbot of Shirbourne, canon, and prebendary of Shirbourne, in the cathedral church of Salisbury, upon a commission for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Wake, rector of the parish church of East Dowlissh Wake, and Richard Goos, rector of the parish church of Thornford of the prebendal jurisdiction of the abbot, was received shewing that he has instituted Sir Richard to the church of Eastdoulisshwake at the presentation of John Speke, esquire; and on receipt of his oath of obedience a letter was written to the archdeacon of Taunton for his induction.

250. Dec. 23. Dogmersfeld manor of the diocese of Winchester. In furtherance of an exchange of benefices between Master John Sone, bachelor in decrees, perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Compton Dundon, and Sir Thomas Newton, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Murlynych, the bishop Fol. 51*d*. instituted Master Thomas, in the person of Robert Groute,

notary public by apostolic authority, his proctor, to the last <sup>1429.</sup> named vicarage, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury, and on receipt of his oath of obedience a letter was written to the guardian of the jurisdiction of Glastonbury for his induction. The bishop instituted also the said Sir Thomas, in the person of Richard Towker, clerk, his proctor, as vicar of Compton Dunden, at the presentation of Roger Harwell, canon and prebendary of Compton Dunden in the cathedral church of Wells; and a letter was written to the dean or subdean of Wells for his induction.

251. Dec. 28. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop collated Sir Nicholas Sturgeon, chaplain, to a canonry, and the prebend of Haselbere, in the same cathedral church; and instituted and invested him.

252. Jan. 9, 1429-30. London. He collated Sir Henry Blakmoor, chaplain, to a canonry and the prebend of Compton Dunden in the same church.

253. Licence for Sir Hugh Grobham, brother of the house or hospital of Briggewater, to receive the priory of Stokecursy at farm and administer the goods of the same, although he is a religious professed in the said house or hospital. Dated in the bishop's inn, London, 10 November, 1429, the fifth year of his consecration.

254. Jan. 25. London. The bishop instituted Sir Simon Elmon as rector of the chapel, with cure, of Wayford; at the presentation of Robert Blanford, esquire.

255. Jan. 25. London. In furtherance of a commission of Fol. 52. John, archbishop of York, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Robert Garlonde, rector of the parish church of Lassyndon, of the archbishop's jurisdiction of Churcheden, and John Horelok, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Buklonde, bishop John instituted the last named to the church of Lassyndon, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Peter's, Gloucester, and Sir Robert to the vicarage of Buklonde Denham, at the presentation of Sir Richard Caudray, canon of Wells.

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256. Jan. 26. London. The bishop instituted John Cartemale, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Gotehull; at the presentation of Richard Nevile, earl of Salisbury and lord of Monthermer.

257. Feb. 2. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Lenyot, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of St. John the Baptist, Yewelchestre; at the presentation of the king.

258. March 16. Woky manor. He instituted Sir John Drewry, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Kynnemersdon; at the presentation of the prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

259. March 17. Woky manor. He instituted Sir David Harnys, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Assholt at the presentation of Thomas Trowgh, donzel.

Fol. 52*v*. 260. March 18. Woky manor. He instituted Sir Stephen Hulle, chaplain, in the person of John Shete, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Culve; at the presentation of John Roger the elder, esquire.

261. March 24. Woky manor. He instituted Sir Robert Smerte, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Shepton Montagu; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

262. March 25. Woky manor. He collated to Sir Walter Baylyf, chaplain, the parish church of Philippenorton; and instituted him as rector of the same.

263. Acta habita in domo capitulari ecclesie cathedralis Wellensis, coram reverendo, etc. Johanne Dei gracia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo in quodam negocio heretice pravitatis contra Willelmum Emayn de villa Bristollie ipsius reverendi patris subditum pariter et subjectum, die Jovis videlicet decimo die mensis Marcii 1428-29 indiccione septima pontificatus sanctissimi etc. Martini divina providencia pape quinti anno duodecimo, inibi judicialiter pro tribunali sedente, comparuit prefatus Willelmus Emayn personaliter et preposito per eundem juramento



corporali tactis per ipsum sacrosanctis Dei euangelii de dicendo <sup>1430.</sup> omnem veritatem quam noverit supra certis articulis et interrogationibus sibi per eundem reverendum patrem in vulgari faciendis proponendis et exponendis fidem catholicum et determinationem universalis ecclesie concernentibus; prefatus reverendus pater interrogavit eundem Willelmum ubi natus fuit et ubi primo traxit originem. Qui respondit quod apud Bifeld in comitatu Northamptonie Lincolniensis diocesis, et postea apud Bokyngham dicte diocesis, et quod illo tempore fuit citatus ad comparandum coram bone memorie Philippo nuper Lincolniensi episcopo in prioratu de Caldewelle juxta Bedfordiam dicte Lincolniensis diocesis super diversis heresibus et erroribus responsurus et hoc ut asseruit prima vice et ea occasione fuit per biennium in carceribus detentus per eundem reverendum patrem. Secunda vero vice ut asseruit fuit productus ad comparandum coram eodem reverendo patre in ecclesia parochiali Omnium Sanctorum Northamptonie dicte Lincolniensis diocesis. Tercia autem vice ut asseruit fuit productus coram eodem domino Philippo apud Sliford ejusdem diocesis; et demum quarta vice ut dixit fuit productus apud Chacombe sepedicte diocesis coram eodem domino Philippo ubi ut asseruit canonicè se purgavit cum sexta manu virorum compurgatorum. Item ulterius interrogatus per memoratum reverendum patrem dominum Johannem Bathoniensem et Wellensem episcopum qualiter senciit de Magistro Johanne Wyclif et ipsius doctrina. Qui respondit et constanter dixit se sentire de ipso quod fuit vir justus et catholicus et quod doctrina sua fuit satis bona eciam catholica quam scripsit de euangelio. Et ulterius dixit prefatus Willelmus Emayn spiritu protervo et maligno ut apparuit quod si prefatus Magister esset vivens ipse omnes sibi contrariantes in doctrina sua probaret hereticos et lollardos. Item interrogatus et examinatus profatus Willelmus per eundem reverendum patrem numquid est licitum unicuique euangelium docere seu predicare, respondit constanter quod sic eciam in lingua materna. Presentibus tunc ibidem venerabilibus viris dompno Nicholao, abbate monasterii Glastonie, domino Johanne Forest, decano ecclesie cathedralis Wellensis, Magistris Johanne Storthwayt, precentore, Johanne Bathe et Johanne Cole, ac dominis Johanne Hiller, Rogero Wodehil et Ricardo Harewell, canonicis ecclie cathedralis predictæ, magistris

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Johanne Daventre, Johanne Carpenter, sacre theologie professoribus, magistris Johanne Boge, Ricardo Thomas et Roberto Groute, auctoritate apostolica notariis publicis, et aliis in multitudine copiosa. Item die Lune videlicet xiiij<sup>o</sup> die mensis Marcii, anno etc. quibus supra, coram eodem reverendo etc. inibi pro tribunali sedente comparuit prefatus Willelmus Emayn et post diversas comunicaciones habitas per prefatum reverendum etc. cum dicto Willelmo Emayn super fide catholica et determinacione sacrosancte ac universalis ecclesie prefatus reverendus pater interrogavit et examinavit prefatum Willelmum Emayn publice ibidem et judicialiter super articulis subscriptis sibi in vulgari expositis quorum tenores sequuntur et sunt tales.

Fol. 53.

In primis every praier should be maad immediatly to God and not to Seintes right as the child that had wast his faderis good come immediatly to his fader and asked mercy and his fader forgaf hym his trespass.

Item hit is not lawful to a man spirituel to charge or to compelle ony man to swere on a book.

Item confession is but a counsail: right as Peter cried God mercy and David and Magdalene and here synne was forgif, so should we do and non otherwise.

Item the pope in dedly sinne is Antecrist and not the viker of Crist: for Crist saith he that is not with me is ayenst me.

Item every prest is bounde under the payne of dedly synne to prech Word of God openly.

Item it is ayenst Goddes lawe to ony man or woman that is foole to entre into ony hous of religion: for thoo places be the dennes of foxes and of briddes nestes.

Item freres shuld not begge but wercke as Poule dede with there handes for thair liflode for they be the childre of sathan.

Item hit is not lawful to ony prest which ministreth the sacrament or singeth for a soule in church collage or other place to take ony salary for his labour.

Item the hed of the church is Crist, and thoo that be most vertuous in lyvyng be most highest in the church, and thoo that be in dedly synne be out of the church of Goddes ordinance and on the sinagoge of Sathanas.

Item to images shulde no maner worship be do neither genuflections ner insensingne non othre thing of worship.

Item hit is dampnable to goo on pilgrimage to ony sepulture<sup>1430.</sup> reliquys of Seintes : for a pilgrimage shulde be do to pouer men.

Item hit is dampnable to offre to ony ymage.

Item hit is not lawful to the king lordes spirituel and temporel be callyng to hem the comones to kepe and execute such ordinances and statutes but they be founded and grounded in Cristes gospel : and the writers of such statutes be like to scribes and pharisees to whom Crist saide *Ve vobis scribis et phariseis, Woo to you scribis and pharisees.*

Item hit is not lawful neither to spiritual lordes as the pope, archbushops, busshops, abbotes and al other of the prelatie, ne to lordes temporal as the king, princes or any other of the temporalte to occupie temporal goodes if they be in dedly synne : for than they be not lordes ne owners of the same goodes.

Item the opinions that Sir John Oldecastel, called the lord Cobham, Maister John Wyclif, Maister William Taillour, Sir William Sawtry, Sir John Beverley and Sir James ——— which persones for their errours and heresies that they pertinatlich defended were convicted and demed for heretikes, and so take to seculer pouer and punisshed to the deth, were holy men and thair doctrine and opinions were trewe and catholik, and therfor they be worshipped in heven as holy martirs.

Item Maister John Wyclif was holier and now is more in blisse and hier in heven glorified than Seint Thomas of Canterbury the glorious Martir.

Subsequenter vero xxiiij<sup>o</sup> die mensis Marcii anno dni supradicto videlicet die Jovis in Cena Domini, in ecclesia cathedrali Wellensi coram supradicto reverendo etc. prefatus Willelmus Fol. 53*r*.  
Emayn fecit abjuracionem publicam ut in forma subscripta, et facta abjuracione obtinuit ab eodem reverendo in Christo patre ad statim tunc ibidem beneficium absolucionis;—presentibus tunc ibidem domino Johanne Forest decano, Magistris Johanne Storthwayt precentore, Thoma Bubbewith archidiacono, Johanne Reynold subdecano ecclesie cathedralis Wellensis, Nicholao Calton archidiacono Tauntoniensis, Magistris Johanne Cole, Ricardo Harewell, dominis Johanne Hiller, Johanne Knyght, canonicis ecclesie Wellensis, et Magistro Johanne Daventre, sacre pagine professori, et aliis in multitudine copiosa.

Abjuracio Willelmi Emayn.

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In the name of God, Amen! Befor you, right reverend father in God John, busshop of Bathe and of Welles, Y William Emayn of the town of Bristowe, your subyet, seeyng and understanding that befor this time Y held, tawt and affermed, certain articles and opinions contrarie to the comen feith of holy church and repugnynth to the determinacion of the church of Rome, wherefor and for whiche causes Y was brought befor you in answer that have cure of my soul; be whom Y am suffiantly and treuly enformed that the same articles abovesaid be fals, erroneous and heresies and ayenst the trewe understanding of Holy Writ and true doctrine of holy doctoures approved be the church of Rome forsaid; wherefor Y willing to folwe the true doctrine of holy church forsake the same articles abovesaid and ful promise make fro this day forward never to holde them, teche hem, ne afferme hem, ne non other errours ne heresies, willing or weting; wherfor Y forswer and abjure the same and al other affermyng and swering be this Book that fro this time forward Y shal not holde hem ne teche hem privyly ne appert: so God me helpe and holy doom and this holy gospel book.

Absolucio Willelmi Emayn a sententia excommunicacionis, facta primitus abjuracione.

In Dei nomine Amen. Nos Johannes etc. contra te Willelmum Emayn de villa Bristollie nostre jurisdictionis subditum et subjectum legitime procedentes; quia invenimus te heretica dixisse, tenuisse et affirmasse, et vis tamen ut asseris ex puro corde et non ficto ad sanam doctrinam et unitatem ecclesie redire, ideo abjurata per te primitus omni heretica pravitate, ac prestita caucione per te de parendo matri, ab excommunicacionis sententia in qua ea occasione incurristi te absolvimus et sacramentis ecclesie restituimus in nomine Patris etc.

264. Injuncciones facte priori et conventui de Bruton. Johannes etc. dilectis filiis priori et conventui prioratus de Bruton salutem etc. Cum antiquis temporibus principes nobilesque philosophi ac alii multiplices sciencia decorati, non illuminati fide nec caritate roborati quid pro temporali utilitate quid pro cupiditate mundane glorie quid pro vite honestate fructuosi fuerant in operibus virtutum; quanto magis modernis temporibus fideles virtutibus gratuitatis prediti pro eterna vita in celesti patria

fideliter adquirenda virtutes amarent viciaque et cuncta seculi <sup>1430.</sup> blandimenta contempnerent; et presertim singuli religiosi qui ceteris ad virtutum et morum perfeccionem artius constringuntur, quorum perfectio licet consistere debeat in amoris elevacionem ab infimis in cordis reformatione et libidinum cohibicione et in adhesicione Deo et summis, prout docet eximius doctor Augustinus in epistola octogesima tertia. Nonnulli tamen ex hiis minime advertentes, sed eminenciam et dignitatem observancie regularis modestie et sanctitatis speciem dampnabiliter deferentes, in omnium viciorum genere vitam lubricam ac vita secularium multo insolentiores miserrime ducere non verentur. Sicque lapides sanctuarii dispersi sunt in capite omnium platearum. Ad quorum reformationem prelati, quorum est cum Paulo plantare, cum Apollo rigare, terrenis commodis ubique postpositis, ac ipsa contemplacionis dulcedine ad tempus subtracta, sicut Dei offensam evitare voluerint dicentis Quod errabat non revocastis et quod periit non inquisistis, solerter et cum cautela jugissima assurgere et invigilare tenentur. Unde ex intimis nostri cordis omnem negligenciam in ea parte a nobis excutere sinceriter affectantes pridem ad visitandum prioratum vestrum de Bruton predictum declinavimus. Et quia in dicta visitacione nostre nonnulla tam in capite quam in membris invenimus reformatione digna, idcirco ut vos prior et confratres vestri antedicti, corruptis moribus Deo propicio sublati de medio, circa sacras oraciones laboresque alios virtuosos liberius amodo possitis occupari, injuncciones facere decrevimus infrascriptas.

FIRST. To restrain in devotion and the evil example of those Fol. 54. ministering in the conventual church of the priory, the bishop enlarging the statute of pope Gregory X. upon this charges that there be a humble and devout entering into the church, a devout rendering of the service, no brawling nor talking with suspected persons, nor unnecessary walking about during the celebration of masses or any of the canonical hours, especially on Sundays and festivals, under pain of mortal sin.

ALSO. Although abbots, priors and other prelates should be a mirror and example for their subjects, it has been discovered in the visitation that the prior scarcely celebrates mass twice in the year, and it is therefore enjoined upon him under pain of the greater excommunication that, if there be no lawful

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impediment, he attend on Double Feasts, Sundays and Festivals at matins, processions and masses, with the convent, and that once every week at least he and the chapter assemble in the chapter house according to the ancient custom for the reformation of any defects, and that as long as he lives he himself celebrate high mass on the greater Double Feasts.

ALSO. Inasmuch as the traditions of the regular observance impose on all religious and especially on canons regular silence at certain hours and places for contemplation, they are enjoined in virtue of holy obedience and under pain of contempt to observe this rule from now.

ALSO. As by their canonical statutes, abdication of property, restraining of lust and obedience are the substance of religion, so much so that if one thing be lacking religion is shipwrecked, obedience is enjoined on them under pain of the greater excommunication.

ALSO. Although by the constitutions of the holy fathers every prelate is bound once a year to shew a state of the account and reckoning of his house before the convent, it has been discovered in the visitation that the prior from the beginning of his rule has never shewn any ! he is enjoined under pain of deprivation and disability to shew the same before his convent for past years and in all future years.

Fol. 54<sup>r</sup>.

ALSO. It is enjoined that the prior shall not henceforth do any important matters of the priory without the consent and assent of the saner part of the convent and his council namely Sir Hugh Luterel, knight, founder and patron of the priory, John Stourton, William Carent and Gregory de Bruton, esquires, or one or two of the same, and of others of the council of the priory ; and if he do the bishop intends to punish him severely and disallow what has been done. If the prior's council make any ordinance for the good of the house, or do so before receipt of these presents as the bishop deputed when last with them in the chapter house, the prior is to observe the same on pain of deprivation.

ALSO. Although all goods and possessions of the priory belong not to the prior only but to the prior and convent, it was discovered in the visitation that the prior retains the instruments and muniments of the priory and unduly appropriates

the custody of these, and it is enjoined that within fifteen days of <sup>1430.</sup> the receipt of these presents he replace entirely the muniments of the priory in a chest or casket under three keys, of which the prior shall have one, the sub-prior another, and one of the brethren deputed by the convent the third, in the treasury of the priory or other house set for this.

ALSO. It has been discovered in the visitation that dishonourable women have access to the priory and very often come there, with whom the prior and brethren have dishonourable converse, whence arise various temptations contrary to the dictum of Jerome to flee society of women, and on that account the bishop enjoins on the prior and convent to abstain altogether from converse with suspected women within or without the priory and not to permit such women to come to the priory in places and at hours likely to arouse suspicion, and specially enjoins on the prior entirely to repel from his society and company Joan Carvyle wife of Thomas Carvyle and admit her not to his presence either in the priory or in any place without.

ALSO. It has been discovered in the visitation that one William Hoper late the prior's chamberlain has often and often sowed grievous strifes, discords and scandals between the prior and the convent insomuch that not charity or love but deadly hatred has long prevailed between them, by whose perverse and nebulous manners not only their good report but also the tone of the whole priory is immensely injured. Therefore let one say with the prophet Let the sheep be cut off from the fold and especially a sickly one by which the whole flock may easily be infected. It is enjoined on them not to admit the same William Hoper to intercourse, company or office within the walls of the priory or without.

These injunctions with others to be sent shortly, which are <sup>Fol. 55.</sup> to be read before them in chapter four times a year, the bishop charges them to observe as they will answer to their Creator. Dated in his manor of Dogmersfeld 20 March, 1427-28.

265. March 10. London. The bishop deputed the abbot and convent of Athelney to be collectors of one entire tenth and the prior and convent of Taunton to be collectors of a half

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tenth, granted to the king in the convocation of the province of Canterbury celebrated in St. Paul's, London, from 5 July to 20 December last; by force of a writ of the king as follows;—  
 Henricus etc. etc. episcopo Bathoniensis et Wellensi salm etc. Cum vos ceterique prelati et clerus Cantuariensis provincie in convocatione etc. quinto die mensis Julii 1428 in ecclesia cathedrali Sancti Pauli Londoniensi inchoata et usque in vicesimum diem mensis Decembris ultimo preteritum de diebus in dies continuata concesseritis nobis ad defensionem etc. [see No. 236] sub modis excepcionibus et condicionibus infrascriptis unam decimam et medietatem decime etc. ad terminos infrascriptos, videlicet unam decimam levandam et solvendam in festo apostolorum Philippi et Jacobi proximo futuro et medietatem decime levandam et solvendam in festo apostolorum Philippi et Jacobi extunc proximo futuro (exceptis a concessione et solucione quibuscumque beneficiis, bonis et possessionibus pauperum religiosorum monialium et pauperum hospitalium ac aliorum piorum locorum dicte provincie, necnon bonis etc. quorumcumque religiosorum et aliarum ecclesiasticarum personarum quorum et quarum monasteria, prioratus, loca, bona, possessiones seu beneficia per inundaciones aquarum, incendia, aliosve usus fortuitos destructa, multum depauperata vel nimium diminuta existunt, exceptis eciam beneficiis ecclesiasticis que ob sui exilitatem inofficiata existunt, illis quoque beneficiis ecclesiasticis curatis taxatis et ad decimam solvere consuetis, non appropriatis dumtaxat, quorum verus valor annuus modernis temporibus infra summam duodecim marcarum existit seu annuatim ad summam duodecim marcarum se extendit et non ultra, in quibus etc. [ut supra in No. 236] de quibus beneficiis bonis et possessionibus singuli episcopi pro suis diocesibus quatenus ipsos concernit nos in Scaccario nostro certificaverint et quorum litteris certificatoriis in ea parte faciendis stetur omnino et fides plenarie adhibeatur, sic quod nec ipsi ordinarii nec loca, bona, possessiones nec beneficia hujusmodi excepta vel persone ipsa occupantes aut collectores dictarum decime et medietatis decime vel alicujus earundem per brevia regia vel quovis alio modo vel colore exquisito ea occasione contra formam certificariorum ordinariorum hujusmodi vexentur vel graventur vexeturve seu gravetur aliquis eorundem, exceptis



eciam bonis etc. domus Jesus de Bethlem Shene, ordinis <sup>1430.</sup> Cartusiensis Wyntoniensis diocesis ac bonis etc. omnium aliarum domonum religiosorum quas dominus Henricus pater noster, vel aliquis progenitorum nostrorum, quondam regum Anglie, per cartas etc. de omnibus auxiliis, tallagiis, contribucionibus seu decimis aut aliis concessionibus quibuscumque per clerum vel communitatem regni concessis vel imposterum concedendis; exceptis preterea beneficiis ecclesiasticis Norwicensis, illis videlicet dumtaxat qui a festo Natalis Domini ultimo preterito usque adterminos solucionis dictarum decime et medietatis decime de jure et de facto vacabunt et de eisdem sic vacantibus episcopus Norwicensis primos fructus dictorum beneficiorum recepturus sit quorumcumque primis fructibus deductis eorundem beneficiorum proventus residui in ipsorum cujuslibet vero valore annuo infra summam duodecim marcarum extiterint et summam duodecim marcarum non excesserint residenciamque <sup>Fol. 55<sup>r</sup>.</sup> fecerint eorundem beneficiorum rectores et vicarii seu aliter si ab eisdem absentes fuerint sufficienter licenciati studio literarum insistant, ut  $\text{p}$ fertur; vos insuper ceterique prelati et clerus ultra et preter excepciones superius recitatas excepistis a concessione et solucione dicte decime et dicte medietatis decime beneficia etc. rectorum vicariorum et aliorum virorum beneficia-  
torum dicte provincie quorumcumque qui post et citra festum Pasche ultimo preteritum de raptu mulierum seu quacumque feloniam indictati fuerint et eciam eorum quos deinceps usque ad terminum ultime solucionis dictarum decime et medietatis decime fiende de raptu mulierum vel feloniam indictari contigerit sic tamen si indictatorum et indictandorum hujusmodi episcopi diocesani de ipsorum indictatorum aut indictandorum vel ipsorum alicujus conversacione honesta et bone opinionis fama maxime quoad articulum super quo indictati fuerint vel aliquis eorundem indictatus fuerit per suas literas testimoniales gratis in ex parte concedendas nos in dicto Scaccario nostro et dictarum decime et medietatis decime collectores certificaverint citra aliquem terminorum limitatorum ad levacionem et solucionem dicte decime et dicte medietatis decime et alicujus earundem quorum literis certificatoriis in ea parte stetur omnino sic quod a rectoribus, vicariis et aliis beneficiatis hujusmodi sic indictatis et sic certificatis nichil de decima aut medietate decime predictis

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quovismodo levetur nec ab tuis vel eorum aliquo quicquam virtute presentis concessionis quomodolibet exigatur, Proviso insuper quod in eventum quo aliquis collector deputandus nos in Scaccario certificet etc. *ut supra No. 236 usque ad "debeat excusari"* vos ceterique prelati et clerus antedicti concesseritis nobis ad defensionem predictam de quibuscumque presbiteris dicte provincie annualia celebrantibus et stipendariis quibuscumque recipientibus pro salario suo per annum centum solidos vel equivalenter a singulis eorum vjs. viiij<sup>d</sup>. levandos et solvendo ab eisdem in festo apostolorum Philippi et Jacobi proximo futuro. Item de quibuscumque capellanis parochialibus et aliis stipendariis dicte provincie non collegiatis recipientibus per annum pro suo salario novem marcas vel ultra in pecunia vel alias equivalenter minus tamen duodecim marcis concesseritis tresdecim solidos quatuor denarios levandos et solvendo de eisdem in festo antedicto. Item de quibuscumque presbiteris parochialibus et aliis stipendariis dicte provincie recipientibus in anno pro suo salario duodecim marcas vel equivalenter concesseritis viginti solidos levandos et solvendo ab eisdem in eodem festo. Item de quibuscumque presbiteris dicte provincie cantarias in eadem habentibus quarum cantariorum non taxatarum nec ad decimam solvere vel quintamdecimam consuetarum proventus annui communibus annis se extendunt ad decem marcas vel ultra minus tamen decem libris concesseritis tresdecim solidos et quatuor denarios, si vero proventus hujusmodi sint valoris annui decem librarum viginti solidos levandos et solvendo de eisdem in festo prenominato. Ab hac tamen concessione, solucione et levacione, videlicet hujusmodi subsidii sex solidorum octo denariorum, tresdecim solidorum quatuor denariorum, et viginti solidorum vos etc. exceperitis omnes et singulos capellanos dicte provincie a quibus alias juxta concessionem predictam subsidium memoratum levaretur qui post et citra festum Pasche ultimo preteritum de raptu mulierum vel alia feloniam indictati fuerint et quos abhinc usque ad terminum levacionis predicti subsidii de hujusmodi raptu vel alia feloniam indictari contigerit sic tamen quod episcopi diocesani presbiterorum hujusmodi sic indictatorum vel usque ad tempus idem indictandorum de ipsorum presbiterorum honesta etc. *(ut supra usque ad "exigatur.")*

Proviso eciam quod citra dictum festum apostolorum Philippi <sup>1430.</sup> et Jacobi proximo futurum singuli episcopi in suis diocesibus <sup>Fol. 56.</sup> fideliter respondeant nos et collectores dictorum subsidiorum de nominibus et cognominibus omnium et singulorum presbiterorum suarum diocesum qui ad dicta subsidia vel ipsorum aliquod et quantum contribuere debebunt, sic quod ipsorum literis certificatoriis in ea parte stetur omnino et quod ab aliis presbiteris dicte provincie quorum nomina et cognomina in hujusmodi literis certificatoriis non continetur nichil vigore concessionis predictae quomodolibet exigatur. Vobis mandamus quod aliquos viros fidedignos etc. [*ut in No. 236*] thesaurarium et barones de Scaccario nostro de nominibus illorum quos ad hoc deputaveritis citra festum Annunciacionis Beate Marie proximo futurum ad ultimum distincte et aperte certificantes. Et hoc sicut nos et honorem nostrum diligitis nullatenus omittatis. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium XX<sup>o</sup> die Februarii anno regni octavo.

SEQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCCC<sup>mus</sup>  
TRICESIMUS.

266. March 27. Frome. The bishop instituted Richard Stone, deacon, as rector of the parish church of Obley; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Kaynesham.

Sequitur expedita per venerabilem virum Magistrum David Price in legibus doctorem licenciatu reverendi in Christo patris et domini domini Johannis etc. episcopi in partibus transmarinis in obsequiis regis agentis, vicarium in spiritualibus generalem.

267. Commission of bishop John to Sirs John Forest, dean of Wells, William Southbroke, prior of Bath, and Masters Thomas Bubbewyth, archdeacon, David Price and John Bathe, canons of Wells, to be his vicars general. Dated in his inn at London, 18 April, 1430.

268. Alia commissio cum c[on]clausis specialibus. Johannes etc. <sup>Fol. 56*v*.</sup> eisdem. Quia nos dudum, voluntate et mandato serenissimi principis et domini domini Henrici Dei gracia regis Anglie etc. verum eciam de avisamento tocius consilii sui ad partes Francie

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in obsequiis regis cum Dei gracia a nostra diocese sumus per aliqua tempora abfuturi, considerantesque plurimum de vestris circumspeditione et industria ac consciencie puritate, vos, nobis agentibus in remotis, nostros in spiritualibus in nostris civitatibus et diocese, harum tenore, vicarios constituimus generales, potestatem vobis et cuilibet vestrum plenariam concedentes quatinus cum personis ecclesiasticis in dicta nostra diocese beneficiatis in et juxta formam capituli *Cum ex eo* dispensandi, literas dimissorias pro ordinibus clericis nostre diocesis ab aliis episcopis catholicis suscipiendi, tam regularibus quam secularibus, concedendas, ordines per aliquem episcopum catholicum quibuscumque clericis nostre et aliarum diocesum per suos ordinarios sufficienter dimissis et titulos canonice exhibentibus locis congruis et temporibus ad hoc statutis celebrari et conferri, ecclesias et capellas ac cimiteria sanguinis aut seminis effusione seu alia quacumque de causa polluta dedicari et reconciliari faciendi; excommunicatos, suspensos vel interdictos eciam in casibus nobis specialiter reservatis, libertatum ecclesiarum nostrarum cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis violatoribus et parcorum nostrorum fractoribus dumtaxat exceptis, in forma juris absolvendi; crimina et excessus quorumcumque subditorum nostrorum corrigendi, puniendi et reformandi; electionum decreta et eorumdem causas sive negocia recipiendi, audiendi, examinandi et discutiendi, defectus si qui sint supplendi et super eisdem cognoscendi, procedendi, statuendi et decernendi, ipsasque electiones si canonice et de personis idoneis rite facte fuerint confirmandi vel alias infrimandi et reprobandi; personis idoneis rite electis administrationem in spiritualibus et temporalibus ut moris est committendi, canonicam obedienciam nobis ab eis debitam recipiendi ipsasque installandi seu installari faciendi; monasteriis, prioratibus, domibus sive locis in quibus electores in casibus a jure expressis potestate eligendi sint ipso facto merito privati seu per sentenciam privari contigerit de personis idoneis canonice providendi; negocia presentacionum, donacionum ac eciam permutacionum de quibuscumque beneficiis ecclesiasticis nostre diocesis et eorum causas examinandi, discutiendi et eas atque ea si liqueat auctorizandi, expediendi ac fine canonico terminandi, presentatasque ad hujusmodi beneficia ecclesiastica personas idoneas ac alias quibus beneficia hujusmodi donari contigerit admittendi, insti-

tuendi et ut moris est induci corporaliter faciendi, obedienciam <sup>1430.</sup> canonicam nobis ab eisdem debitam recipiendi; beneficia ecclesiastica qualiacumque infra nostram diocesim occupantes seu eciam detinentes juxta canonica instituta, juris ordine observato, destituendi et eciam removendi; beneficia eciam ecclesiastica videlicet vicarias exiles augmentandi; brevia regia recipiendi et retornandi; clericos convictos coram justiciariis domini nostri regis seu aliis judicibus secularibus quibuscumque recipiendi et custodie nostre carceribus sive prisone mancipari videndi seu faciendi; clericorum incarcerationum purgacionem per compurgatores idoneos admittendi et eos prout justum fuerit de nostro carcere liberandi; omniaque alia et singula faciendi, exercendi et exequendi, que hujusmodi vicariatus officium de jure seu consuetudine laudabili quomodolibet incumbere dinoscuntur; collaciones vero et presentationes beneficiorum ecclesiasticorum ad nostram collacionem meram, liberam, et plenam, seu eciam per lapsum temporis juxta statuta Lateranensis consilii quovismodo spectantes nobis reservandi specialiter per expressum. In cujus etc. Data in hospicio nostro Londoniense xvij<sup>o</sup> die mensis Aprilis 1430 et nostre consecracionis anno quinto.

269. April 23. London. The above Matthew David, vicar general, instituted Sir Roger Saunder, priest, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Bedmyster and Radclif; at the presentation of Master John Bathe, canon, and prebendary of the prebend of Bedmyster and Radclif in the cathedral church of Salisbury.

270. April 30. London. He instituted Sir William Cary, priest, as rector of the parish church of Penne; at the presentation of Elizabeth Chiseldon.

271. May 6. London. He instituted Master William Frome, <sup>Fol. 57.</sup> doctor of decrees, as rector of the parish church of Bakewell; at the presentation of Sir Walter Hungerford, lord of Haytesbury and of Homett.

272. Aug. 14. His house of habitation at Dicheyate rectory. He instituted Sir Hugh ap Ieuan, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Staway; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Goldclif.

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273. Aug. 15. Dicheyate. He instituted Sir Robert Fowel, priest, as rector of the parish church of Westludford; at the presentation of John earl of Huntingdon.

274. Aug. 22. Crukern. He instituted Robert Papel, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Myryzete; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Muchilney.

275. Aug. 27. Dycheate. He instituted Sir Richard Furneys, priest, as rector of the parish church of Crocombe; at the presentation of the prioress and convent of Stadeley, of the diocese of Lincoln.

276. A dispensation by the said vicar general to John Estimer, *alias* Bonde, layman, and Agnes his wife, relict of the sometime William Yonge, who formerly intermarried, not knowing of any impediment between them, but afterwards learned that they were within the third degree of affinity, to continue in wedlock, notwithstanding such affinity; and decree that children born or to be born to them are legitimate; granted by authority of apostolic letters, dated at Rome at the Holy Apostles 7 ides of December, 13 Martin V, and after examination of Thomas Estimere and Edmund Sordyche, witnesses to the truth of the premises produced by the parties before him in the conventual church of Taunton priory on 21 August, 1430.

277. Aug. 31. Dycheate. The said vicar general instituted Sir Thomas Gybbes, priest, as rector of the parish church of Donkerton; at the presentation of John Petherton, esquire.

SEQUITUR EXPEDITA PER DOMINUM POST ADVENTUM DE  
PARTIBUS TRANSMARINIS, ETC.

278. Sept. 16. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir John Saundres, priest, as rector of the parish church of Ennemere; at the presentation of Amice Malet, patroness.

279. Sept. 28. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir John Raynal as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Samford Arundel; at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Canonligh.

280. Commission of the bishop to the dean, and Master John<sup>1430</sup> Bathe, canon of Wells, to nominate and appoint for him in the<sup>Fol. 58.</sup> chapter house of the cathedral church of Wells, on the feast of St. Jerome next, with continuation and prorogation of days if necessary, three priors in the chapel of the Blessed Virgin, and two in the chapel of St. Martin in the said church; and to collate at the same place and time to chantries in his collation or provision to fit chaplains. Dated in Dogmersfeld manor, 26 September, 1430.

281. Oct. 1. Dogmersfeld. A certificate of Master Simon Sidenham, dean of Salisbury, upon a commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Pudel, rector of the parish church of Chiselburgh, and Michael James, perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Shirborne, of his decanal jurisdiction, was received shewing that he has instituted Sir Michael to the church of Chiselburgh at the presentation of William Halle, "serjant," of the diocese of Exeter, and upon this the said Sir Michael took the oath of obedience, and a letter was written to the archdeacon of Wells for his induction.

282. Oct. 4. London. The bishop instituted Sir William Long *alias* Sompnour, priest, as rector of the parish church of St. Andrew the Apostle, Prisshton, at the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath.

283. Oct. 17. London. He instituted Sir William Edward, priest, in the person of Robert Groute, notary public, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Oke; at the presentation of Sir Thomas Stawel, knight, Eleanor Hulle, John Hulle, clerk, Roger Huswyf, clerk, and Hugh Cary.

284. Oct. 18. London. He instituted Sir Henry Yurde, priest, in the person of Sir Thomas Philip, his proctor, as rector of the perpetual chantry in the parish church of Ichestoke; at the presentation of William Paulet of Bere.

285. Oct. 21. London. He instituted Sir John Smocke, priest, as rector of the parish church of Baggeburgh; at the presentation of lady Joan Brooke. And forthwith, with the consent of all parties interested, he decreed an annual pension

1430. of 100s. to be paid quarterly, to Sir John Busshop, priest, who is resigning the said church; the first payment to be made at Christmas next.

Fol. 58*d*. 286. Oct. 24. London. He instituted Sir Abraham Hoper, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Kywestoke; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Wosprynge.

287. Nov. 4. London. He instituted Sir Nicholas Abel priest, as rector of the parish church of Ketisford; at the presentation of John Bluet.

288. The bishop commits to the prior of Taunton full power to mitigate or, if necessary, to increase the penances declared by Master David Price, late vicar general, upon Richard Ravel, Thomas Crook, John Lymyn and John Curteys, canons regular of his priory, for certain excesses and crimes whereof they had been impeached before the bishop by public report and afterwards convicted before the said vicar, they having since shown signs and indications of true penitence, and returned to the due observance of their obedience and sworn profession. Dated in his inn at London, 4 November, 1430, the sixth year of his consecration.

Fol. 59. 289. Monition to the prior and convent of Bruton, who as the bishop has learned have not attended to his monitions and injunctions following his late visitation of their house, nay rather have spurned them, diligently to see to and execute the same, and especially in regard to the removal of suspicious women within and near the priory, on pain of suspension of those who preside over the administration. And that none of the convent may be able to excuse himself on the ground of ignorance, the bishop charges the prior and sub-prior to cause these letters to be publicly read twice every week until the Purification before the assembled chapter; and if any fault be found in them in the premises, they shall, when called on for this by the bishop, certify him of the names of the guilty by letters patent containing the series of these. Dated in his inn at London, 14 November, etc.



290. Nov. 8. London. The bishop instituted Sir Thomas <sup>1430.</sup> Prendergest, priest, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Tymbrescombe; at the presentation of Sir John Birkhed, canon and prebendary of Tymbrescombe, in the church of Wells.

291. Nov. 15. London. In furtherance of a commission of Richard, bishop of London, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Michael James, rector of the parish church of Cheselburgh, and John Westmore, rector of the parish church of Braunstone, of the diocese of Lincoln, the bishop instituted Sir Michael to the church of Braunstone, at the king's presentation; and Sir John to the church of Cheselburgh, at the presentation of Sir William Halle of the diocese of Exeter.

292. Monition to the prior and convent of Bruton, to present within one month a fit chaplain to the parish church of Shepton Montis, of which they claim to be impropiators, and to augment the portion of the fruits and profits of the church assigned to the vicar, which the bishop has learned they have reduced to such slender amount that it is insufficient for the sustenance of the vicar, and payment of the bishop's rights and other charges on the vicarage. If they neglect this the bishop will, at the expiration of the month, take the matter into his own hands. Dated in *Fol. 59v.* his inn at London, 21 November, 1430.

293. Nov. 22. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Hyrry, priest, as rector of the parish church of Templecombe; at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury.

294. Nov. 25. London. He instituted Sir William Vileris, priest, as rector of the parish church of Kittenore; at the presentation of Thomas Bratton, esquire.

295. Dec. 5. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir William Cotton, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Shepton Montagu; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

296. Monition of Sir Nicholas Calton, archdeacon of Taunton to repair, as required by the legatine constitution, within one

1430. month, the houses and buildings of his archdeaconry, especially at Milverton, of which some, through his fault and carelessness, are likely to fall in ruin, and others need repair; on pain of sequestration out of the fruits of the archdeaconry sufficient for such repair. Dated in Dogmersfeld manor, 11 December, 1430.

Fol. 60. 297. Licence, during pleasure, for Sir John Alampton, perpetual vicar in the cathedral church of Wells, in consideration of his great age, to have mass celebrated daily in a low voice in an oratory in his house. Dated in Dogmersfeld manor, 11 December, 1430.

298. Notification to all persons that the bishop has released the suspension and sequestration laid by Master David Price, late his vicar general, on Sir Richard Henwonom, priest, chaplain of the chantry for the soul of John Stokes, in the church of St. Thomas, Bristol, for certain excesses. Dated in Dogmersfeld manor, 12 December, 1430.

299. *Universis etc. Johannes etc. episcopus, salutem in vero Salvatore et fidem presentibus adhibere. Quia divum contritos corde sanare et contriciones eorum alligare sermo propheticus contestatur, hujus exemplum doctrine pia humilitate sectari conantes, Johannem Penbrook ecclesie nostre cathedralis Wellensis vicarium qui temera in deliberacione manus nuperrime iniecit violentas in dominum Willelmum Northam presbiterum ejusdem ecclesie nostre vicarium perpetuum usque ad sanguinis effusionem unde pollucio ejusdem sequebatur nimium condolenda, post ipsius Johannis manifesta doloris et contricionis indicia a sententia excommunicationis a canone lata in hoc casu informa juris absolvimus, prestito juramento in tali casu requisito et injuncta pro modo culpe penitencia, utinam salutari. Has nostras patentes sibi super hiis fieri fecimus testimoniales quas in fidem premissorum sigillo nostro fecimus communiri. Data in manerio nostro de Dogmersfeld xvº die mensis Decembris etc.*

300. Jan. 15, 1430-31. London. The bishop instituted Sir Richard Herry, priest, as rector of the parish church of Northbarwe; at the presentation of William, lord of La Zouche, St. Maur, Totnes and Haringworth.

301. Jan. 16. London. He instituted John Courtenay,<sup>1431.</sup> having the first clerical tonsure, as portioner of the second portion in the parish church of Crukern; at the presentation of Anne, countess of Devon.

302. Jan. 17. London. He instituted Sir John Richard, priest, as rector of the parish church of Ludford; at the presentation of Anne, countess of Huntingdon and Ivry, by authority and power of John, earl of Huntingdon and count of Ivry, her husband, now abroad.

303. Jan. 22. London. He instituted Sir John Wake *alias* Fol. 60d. Bruer, priest, as rector of the parish church of Stawel; at the presentation of John Hody, lord of Stawel.

304. Jan. 28. London. He instituted Sir Henry Wise, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Tuyverton; at the presentation of the prioress and convent of Kyngton of the diocese of Salisbury.

305. Jan. 31. London. He collated Master John Bernard, bachelor in laws, to a canonry, and the prebend of Holcombe, in the cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the resignation of Master John Orum.

306. John etc. to Masters John Bernard, his commissary Fol. 60d  
general, John Boghere his scribe in causes of corrections and *contd.* to  
registrar, and Peter Cole, his principal apparitor, greeting etc. 61d.  
He has received letters of William, bishop of London, dated in his palace at London, 24 January, 1430-31, transmitting for execution in his diocese a mandate of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in Lambhithe manor, 12 January, 1430-31, pursuant to a writ of the king, witnessed by Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, guardian of England, at Westminster, 10 January, 9 Henry VI, for summoning the convocation of the province of Canterbury to meet in the church of St. Paul, London, on Monday, 19 February next; and the business being very important and the time short, he commands them, jointly and severally, to cause the dean and chapter of Wells, the prior and chapter of Bath, the archdeacons, abbots, and priors having

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convents under them, and other prelates of churches, as well those exempt on account of churches appropriated to them as not exempt, and the clergy of the diocese, to be cited to appear on that day; the said dean and prior, archdeacons, abbots, priors and prelates, in person, the chapters of Wells and Bath, each by one of the chapter and by none other, and the clergy by two proctors, graduates of the diocese, or by two of the more sufficient and able of the diocese, resident in their benefices. The commissary general is to certify him on the feast of St. Valentine at the latest by letters patent, having a separate schedule attached containing the names and surnames of the cited, of the day of the receipt of these presents and the manner of the execution of them. Dated in his inn at London, 27 January.

307. A dispensation to John Shoile, late prior of the priory of Bruton of the order of St. Augustine, to reside during the bishop's pleasure in the priory of Poughle of the same order of the diocese of Salisbury. Dated at London, 10 February, etc.

308. Power to Master David Price, canon of Wells, to prorogue the bishop's visitation, ordained for 26 February, until Monday after the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and to any day before that; the bishop being prevented by business of the king and realm from attending. Dated at London, 10 February, etc.

309. Feb. 9. London. The bishop instituted Sir Thomas Cronage, priest, as rector of the parish church of Pulle; at the presentation of Richard Hankeford, knight.

310. Feb. 16. London. He instituted Robert Ferby, priest, as rector of the parish church of Bakewell; at the presentation of Walter Hungerford, lord of Haytesbury and of Homet.

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311. Feb. 27. London. He instituted Sir Roger Elmeley, priest, as rector of the parish church of Staunton Prioris; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath.

312. March 2. London. He instituted Sir Richard Ferby, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Muchilneye; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Muchilneye.

313. March 5. London. He instituted Sir John Pittes 1431. priest, in the person of Sir Thomas Storke, rector of the parish church of Ashbritill, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Thurlokston; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton.

314. March 23. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Oliver Mercer, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Meere; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury.

SEQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCCC<sup>mus</sup> TRICESIMUS PRIMUS.

315. April 6. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop collated Master Nicholas Upton, bachelor of both laws, to a canonry and the prebend of Dynre, in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted and invested him.

316. As above. He collated Sir Richard Wyoth, priest, to a canonry and the prebend of Langrigg in the king's free chapel of Penkrich; vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Redeman and in the bishop's collation by a commission of Richard, archbishop of Dublin, and on receipt of the oath of obedience to the archbishop from the said Richard a letter was written to Master John Russhbury, canon and residenciary of the chapel, for his induction.

317. April 20. London. In furtherance of an exchange of Fol. 62<sup>l</sup>. benefices between Sirs John Hyrry, rector of the church of Templecombe, and John Burell, rector of the parish church of Odecombe, the bishop instituted the latter to the church of Templecombe, at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury, and the former to the church of Odecombe, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute.

318. May 7. London. The bishop instituted Sir Richard Parkhous as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of Richard de Welles sometime burgess of Bristol in the chapel of St. Thomas there; at the presentation of John Leycestre, mayor of the said town, patron for this turn.

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319. May 9. London. He instituted Sir John Langleigh, priest, in the person of John Dodeman, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Stanleigh; at the presentation of William Paulet of Melcombe.

320. As above. He instituted Master Richard Stourton, canon of Wells, in the person of Robert Fynnamour, deacon, rector of the parish church of Radestoke, his proctor, as warden of the free chapel of Kynggeston; at the presentation of John Chidyok, knight.

321. May 10. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Lerebeek, priest, as rector of the parish church of Egforton *alias* Faireoke; at the presentation of Nicholas Wotton.

322. June 2. Woky manor. He granted a dispensation for Sir John Southwode, rector of the parish church of Spaxton, to be absent from his church for one year.

323. June 5. Woky manor. The bishop laid a sequestration on the fruits of the vicarage of Stowey, and committed the keeping of the sequestration to the rector of Farneburgh, John Brok and Robert Dole; those fruits only wherein the vicar of Stowey claims to have right in any manner.

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(sic).

324. As above. He collated Richard Hillard, perpetual vicar of a stall in the choir of the cathedral church of Wells, to the tenth chamber on the west side of the vicars' close there; John Bedforde, vicar, to the eighteenth chamber on the east side; William Champ, vicar, to the third chamber on the east side; and John Rys, vicar, to the twentieth chamber on the east side.

325. A dispensation of bishop John, by authority of letters of Jordan, bishop of Albano, dated at Rome, at the Holy Apostles, 10 kal. October, 13 Martin V, to Richard Smyth, clerk, in respect of his illegitimacy; he being born of a married man and a single woman. Dated in Woky manor, 25 May, 1431.

326. June 28. London. The bishop instituted Sir John <sup>1431.</sup> Peryn, priest, as rector of the parish church of Kulmyngton; at the presentation of the abbess and convent of Shaftesbury.

327. July 28. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir John White, priest, as rector of the parish church of Berklegh, vacant by the death of Sir Walter Nicoll; at the presentation of William Westbury.

328. July 15. London. In furtherance of a commission of *Fol. 64d.* Thomas, bishop of Worcester, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs William Yonge, rector of the parish church of Fressshorde, and John Arnolde, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Southcerney of the diocese of Worcester, bishop John instituted the said William to the last named vicarage at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Peter's, Gloucester, and the said John to the church of Frusshford, at the presentation of John Pederton, esquire, lord of Frusshford.

329. Aug. 1. London. The bishop instituted Sir Richard Bylton, priest, in the person of Thomas Combe, literate, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of Oterhampton; at the presentation of lady Elizabeth Trevet, relict of Sir Thomas Trevet, knight.

330. Concordia sive compositio realis facta inter dominos Willelmum Skelton, rector ecclesie parochialis de Comba Sancti Nicholai et Ricardum Pertrich, vicarium ibidem.

Universis etc. Johannes etc. salutem et fidem indubiam presentibus imperpetuum adhibere. Pastoralis sollicitudo pontificis inter ceteras sibi incumbentes curas, quanto suos subditos ad pacem et concordiam tenetur reducere et caritatis vinculo connectere, tanto sui interest factam inter eos concordiam ne postmodum disrumpat sed firma continuo subsistat per ordinariam auctoritatem quantum cum Deo poterit solidare; porrecta siquidem nuper extitit coram nobis pro tribunali sedentibus mense, die, loco, annoque subscriptis cujusdam concordie sive compositionis materia in scriptis redacte inite atque facte inter partem dilecti filii domini Willelmi Skelton, prepositi ecclesie nostre cathedralis Wellensis rectorisque ecclesie parochialis de Comba

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Sancti Nicholai, per Willelmum Buell, notarium publicum, procuratorem suum in hac parte, sub instrumento et manu publica, signo et subscriptione discreti viri Magistri Ricardi Thomas, notarii publici, nobis satis noti signato, legitime constitutum, cujus quidem mandati procuratorii tenor infrascribitur, comparentis ex parte una, ac dilectum filium dominum Ricardum Partriche vicarium dicte parochialis ecclesie perpetuum personaliter presentem ex parte altera : quam quidem concordiam sive compositionem utraque parcium predictarum ex certa sciencia sua et de communicato, sicut asseruerunt, consilio supplicarunt cum instantia mutuo consensu et expressa voluntate suis per nos inspicere palpitari et videri, ratificarique et confirmari, et ut realis existeret per nos eciam decerni, humiliter rogaverunt ; cujus quidem concordie sive compositionis tenor sequitur in hec verba :—  
Universis Christi fidelibus nos Willelmus Skelton, prepositus etc. rectorque ecclesie parochialis de Comba Sancti Nicholai prepositure hujusmodi unite, annexe et appropriate, ac Ricardus Partrich perpetuus vicarius ecclesie parochialis predictae, ad perpetuam commemoremiam deduci rogamus et significari desideramus et volumus effectualiter infrascripta : edita siquidem olim per bone memorie Jocelinum, Bathoniensem et Wellensem episcopum, compositio sive ordinacio super porcione vicarii in ecclesia parochiali pretaxata, quia de jure et modo percipiendi decimam agnorum in et infra parochiam ibidem aliquid obscurum sive ambiguum continebat, propter quod dissencionis materia et discordiarum occasio frequenter inter me Willelmum prepositum predictum et Ricardum vicarium pretaxatum et interdum inter procuratores, ballivos ac firmarios meos, nomine meo et prepositure mee hujusmodi ac ipsum Ricardum vicarium irrepserunt super jure et modo percipiendi decimas agnorum pretaxatas : In declarationem igitur et remocionem dicti ambigui, et ad precludendam amodo imposterum viam discordie et dissencionis in premissis inter nos, ad perpetuam rei memoriam, precedente deliberacione matura ex nostris certis scienciis est hinc inde consensus et unanimiter concordatum, quod Ricardus vicarius predictus et successores sui, vicarii ibidem pro tempore existentes, percipient et habebunt amodo imperpetuum sibi solum et insolidum absque ulla contradiccione, reclamacione vel impedimento mei Willelmi prepositi vel successorum meorum preposi-



torum justam decimam omnium agnorum quos infra parochiam <sup>1431.</sup> ecclesie parochialis de Comba Sancti Nicholai predicta impostum gigni, oriri, et nutriri, et ad ecclesiam predictam ut de jure decime qualitercumque provenire et de jure pertinere debere contigerit, in melioracionem sive augmentacionem porcionis vicarii in eadem ut idem Ricardus vicarius et successores sui vicarii ibidem curam eo devocius et libencius gerere vehemensius inclinentur. Cetera vero capitula et articulos compositionis sive ordinacionis super porcione vicarii edita, ut prefertur per bone memorie Jocellinum nuper Bathoniensem et Wellensem episcopum volumus et consentimus hinc de pro nobis et successoribus nostris in suis robore, virtute, et effectu immutabiliter permanere. Et ut hec presens concordia nostra imperpetuum durare valeat et realis efficiatur supplicamus humiliter in hiis scriptis reverendum etc. Johannem etc. episcopum huic concordie suam auctoritatem impertiri et eam auctoritate sua ordinaria et diocesana in majoris roboris firmitatem efficaciter. In quorum omnium testimonium, quia sigilla nostra sunt privata et incognita, sigillum officialis principalis domini Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi presentibus hujusmodi concordiam nostram continentibus apponi procuravimus. Et nos officialis antedictus ad personales rogatus discreti viri Magistri Willelmi Vouell, clerici, procuratoris dicti venerabilis viri Magistri Willelmi Skelton prepositi predicti in hac parte sufficienter et legitime constituti ac domini Ricardi vicarii memorati sigillum officialitatis nostre presentibus apposuimus. Data Wellie tercio die mensis Junii 1431.

The tenour of the procuratory of the said William Vouell follows to this effect:—

Be it known that in the year 1431, the ninth indiction, the first year of the pontificate of Eugenius IV., on 28 April, in a garden within the college vulgarly called Caunterbury colage, Oxford, situated in the parish of St. Edward, in the presence of the notary and witnesses written below, the aforesaid provost appointed Master William Vouell, clerk, notary public by apostolic authority, and Robert Straunge, to be his proctors as above, etc. Done at Oxford in the year, etc., above written, in the presence of Master Roger Coryngdon, canon of Wells and notary public, Sir Ralph Carvile, chaplain, Nicholas Tanner and

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Robert Risawe, clerks of the said diocese and the dioceses of Salisbury and Winchester, witnesses specially summoned. And I, Richard Thomas, clerk, of the diocese of Worcester, notary public by apostolic and imperial authority, saw all these things done, and being much hindered by other business, caused them to be written by another, and with my own hand subscribed it and set my usual sign here.

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The confirmation by the bishop of the above concord or composition : and all these things the bishop caused to be drawn up in public form by Robert Groute, notary public, and his scribe, and subscribed with the usual sign and name of the said notary, and sealed with his seal. Done and dated in the year 1431, the ninth indiction, the first year of the pontificate of Eugenius IV., June 5, the seventh year of the bishop's consecration, in the great chamber of his manor of Woky, in the presence of Master John Bathe and Sir Roger Wodehele, canons of Wells, and Thomas Stawell, knight, and John Warre, esquire, of the bishop's said diocese.

And I, Robert Groute, clerk of the diocese of Norwich, etc., was present when all these things were done before the bishop, as above, and being hindered by other business, had them drawn up in a public form by another, etc. (*as above*).

331. A dispensation by the bishop to Sir William Pole, priest of his diocese, granted after inquisition made in the matter by authority of letters of Jordan, bishop of Sabina, as follows:—*Venerabili etc. Jordanus miseratione divina episcopus Sabinensis, salutem et sinceram in Domino caritatem. Sua nobis Willelmus Pole presbiter vestre diocesis lator presencium petitione monstravit quod cum ipse olim et quidam Johannes Whitethorn laicus, solacii causa, cum ferris equinis ad certa signa seu metas sub certo precio seu pena victori per succumbentem solvenda invicem luderent, ipsisque sic ludentibus casualiter dictus laicus ludum perdidissent, et eidem exponenti penam conventam solvere recusaret, exorta fuerunt propter hoc inter eos verba opprobriosa et contumeliosa ; sed nichilominus cum idem, exponens, vellet locum ibi dare et ab illo recedere, idem laicus nimium infestus et pertinax ab inceptis minime desistebat, ymmo tunc forcius exponentem verbis injuriis et opprobriis opprimebat,*

unde idem exponens ulterius hujusmodi injurias tollerare non <sup>1431.</sup> valens cum dicto ferro timorem incutiendi et non graviter eum offendendi ut eum dimitteret ferrum ludi quod in manibus suis tenebat, in dictum laicum projecit eumque in capite super auriculum ejus sinistrum percussit; et, licet percussio hujusmodi letalis non fuerit sed habilis ad salutem, tamen quia dictus laicus, spretis medicorum chirurgicorumque consiliis, cibos et potus et alia sibi prohibita, propria temeritate, sumebat, causante hujusmodi suo malo regimine quarta die post percussione hujusmodi in infirmitatem paralisis frigidam incidit et in dextra sui corporis parte ea percussus fuit adeo graviter quod post octo dies expiravit: Cum autem, sicut eadem petitio submittebat, juxta relata plurimorum fidedignorum credatur, dictum laicum ex sua negligencia et causante suo malo regimine et ex dicta superveniente infirmitate decessisse potius quam ex dicta percussione, et idem exponens in dicta morte alias quam ut premittitur culpabilis non fuerit, cupiatque ex magno devocionis fervore in omnibus suis ordinibus perpetuo Domino famulari, supplicavit humiliter ad cautelam sibi super hiis per sedem apostolicam misericorditer provideri: Nos igitur, ne sibi desit in hac parte cautele remedium ipsumque in hoc suo laudabili proposito confovere, sueque saluti anime providere, volentes, auctoritate domini pape, cujus penitenciarie curam gerimus, et de ejus speciali mandato super hoc vive vocis oraculo nobis facto, ipsum presbiterum a reatu homicidii hujusmodi ad cautelam ad vos remittimus absolutum, introitu ecclesie sibi restituto, circumspeccioni vestre auctoritate et mandato committentes eisdem quatinus, si est ita, injuncta inde sibi pro modo culpe penitencia salutari super irregularitate ex premissis forte contracta; si tamen dictus laicus ex dicta percussione mortuus non fuerit sed ex alia infirmitate alio sibi non obstante canonico cautelasimilidispensetis misericorditer cum eodem eamque circa eum penitus aboleatis Data Rome apud Sanctum Petrum secundo kal. Julii, pontificatus domini Eugenii pape quarti anno primo. Data in manerio nostro de Dogmersfeld xxij<sup>o</sup> die mensis Augusti, 1431, et nostre consecracionis anno septimo. Fol. 66*r*.

332. Mandatum contra sortilogos, falsos juratores sive perjuros, atque lollardos, vel libros lollardie vel alios in lingua vulgari conscriptos.

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Johannes etc. decano ecclesie nostre cathedralis Wellensis, seu in ejus absencia presidenti capituli, et capitulo ejusdem, salutem etc. Creator universorum Deus omni creature naturam imposuit et qua regeretur instituit, sed hominem quem creaturam esse precipuam ad ymaginem et similitudinem suam factum ratione propter glorie sue cumulum specialiter insignivit et ei legem atque precepta tradidit discipline quibus agnosceret ex fide Deum factorem suum colere et eum atque proximum diligere, equum ab iniquo discernere, a vetitis abstinere et rite gaudere permissis. Sed heu! hoc gracie donum et illud eminencie privilegium per inobedienciam et peccatum vertitur in abusum, dum divinis non consideratis, ymmo enormiter contemptis fidei preceptis legalibus, et in Deum blasphemiam et in proximum sedicionem atque nimis frequenter intollerabilem jacturam per sortilegii et detestabilis perjurii reatum inferre populus quasi per totum regnum Anglie indies non formidat. Hujus autem execrabilis sortilegii frequentia et perjurii exercicium in tantam hiis diebus sub connivencia crevere consuetudinem quod apud multos, Dei timore postposito, non peccata sed eis licita reputentur, cum quidam supersticiosi ad Sathanam occulte conversi instigante vicio curiositatis propter amorem false felicitatis et terrene sive temporalis excellencie fantasmatis et demonum illusionibus dediti, quos populus simplex interdum sapientes et aliter medicos vocat more paganorum sive gentilium, cum demonibus consulentes per incantaciones, divinationes, sortilegia, sorcerias et malificias diaboli suffragia querunt, verbis, phileteriis, putacialibus, carrecteribus, et signis, sub nominibus incognitis, in quibus aliquid illicitum latere poterit artem peragunt, nascencium mores, actus et eventus predicere conantur, concubitus nubencium sequestrant, et hiis quos habent odio passiones, infirmitates ac membrorum usum per sorcerias suspendi procurant, disposiciones infirmorum eciam absencium per visum cingulorum, camisiarum aut aliarum rerum suarum quibus uti consueverant pandere, et medicinas sanitatis eciam brutis animalibus per incantaciones facere conjecturant, tradicionesque gentilium sequentes elementa, lunam et stellarum, mensium ac dierum cursus, atque inanem signorum fallaciam pro domo facienda, vel propter segetes aut arbores plantandas, vel conjugia copulanda, et aliorum operum inicio, ac in colleccionibus

herbarum que medicinales sunt observaciones et incantaciones <sup>1431.</sup> fieri, et alia varia facere docent, futura predicere, res furtive con-  
tractatas demonum consultatione et aliis prestigiis invenire  
laborant, divinitatis jura, relicto Deo Creatore suo, creaturis  
attribuunt. Omnis enim hec observacio paganorum est et falsam  
supersticionem continent manifeste. Ex qua nonnulli, pro dolor,  
dum hec esse vera credunt a fide deviant et ad infidelitatis inter-  
itum pertrahuntur ac patenter involuti sunt paganorum errore  
dum aliquid divinitatis vel numinis esse extra Deum unicum  
arbitrantur, cum dicit apostolus Sive manducatis sive bibitis  
sive aliquid aliud facitis in nomine Domini facite, in quo vivimus,  
movemur et sumus. Ceterum homines in assumpta juxta regni  
jura et consuetudinem duodena jurati non verentur amore, odio,  
terrore, pecunia sive sorde cecati vel corrupti, veritate suppressa  
jus parti auferre et ei cui non debetur per mendax juramentum  
tribuere, justos heredes jure suo exheredare et, quod deterius est,  
innoxios atque simplices, transgressoribus atque sediciosis <sup>Fol. 67.</sup>  
preteritis seu dimissis, felonice indictare et mortii quantum est  
perperam condemnare. Timendum valde est quod hujus-  
modi flagitiosi criminis clamat de terra ultionem, quod utique  
Salvator tam in vetere lege et prophetis quam in evan-  
gelio et per apostolum propter ipsius immanitatem acrius  
legitur prohibuisse, ita quod obnoxiiis tanti sceleris interdum  
plagam alias maledictionem in medio domus sue ut consumat  
eos ligna et lapides et alibi ultimum terribilium, quia mortem  
agnoscitur scripture testimonio comminasse, absque hoc quod  
hujusmodi reatu culpabiles sanctorum patrum constitutionibus  
et generalium consiliorum auctoritate sunt majoris excommuni-  
cationis vinculo innodati. Magna denique cordium trepidacione  
timere juste debeat gens Anglorum perjurii flagicium infra reg-  
num Anglie habere juxta solitam consuetudinem vel usum,  
quoniam dire ulcionis mucrone regnum Anglie inclitum ex hac  
causa bina vice glorie sue coronam amisisse fertur in cronicis per  
conquestum. Concedat Altissimus quod nil conquestu acrius, nil  
eo molestius huic inclite regioni amplius obveniat ab [Pob]  
hanc causam, sed labem tam odibilem apud Deum piaculorum  
terribili ulcioni (quam avertat Altissimus) verissimiliter proxi-  
morum quilibet tenetur prelatus, tam ex canonis precepto quam  
ex deliberacione consilii generalis Londonii ultimo celebrati, in sua

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diocesi purgare et cum omni diligencia tollere festinanter, propter animarum et dictarum ulcionum pericula, ne sanguis eorum quos culpe reatus in hac parte constringit a suis manibus propter correccionis negligenciam exigatur. Et quia nobis cordi insidet vehementer divina per filios nostros quantum cum Deo possu-  
mus servari mandata et suarum salutis animarum consulere affectione paterna salubriter in premissis, vobis tam nostra ordinaria quam dicti consilii auctoritate mandamus in virtute obediencie et sub Divini obtestacione iudicii injungimus et monemus firmiter per presentes quatinus premissorum Deo tam odibilium criminum, sortilegii videlicet et perjurii enormitatem, unacum penis, periculis et vindictis supradictis quibus culpabiles in eisdem formidare poterunt merito se percelli tam in ecclesia nostra cathedrali, quam civitate Wellensi et in omnibus et singulis ecclesiis parochialibus et capellis jurisdictionum peculiarium sive prebendalium ad vos seu beneficiatos in ecclesia nostra cathedrali Wellensi predicta pertinentibus, per officiales seu excercentes jurisdictiones accuratos in eisdem intra missarum solemnia diebus Dominicis et festivis cum major affuerit populi multitudo continue usque in proximam Quadragesimam aperta et intelligibili atque discreta insinuacione declaretis seu declarari faciatis publice in vulgari, quibus omnibus eciam publice annuncietis seu nunciari faciatis magicas artes, sorcerias vel incantaciones quibuslibet infirmitatibus hominum nichil posse remedii conferre nec animalibus languentibus quicquam mederi, sed hec esse laqueos et antiqui hostis insidias, quoniam qui talia credit et hiis similia fidem perdit, et juxta sententiam Gregorii quisquis credit posse fieri aliquam creaturam aut in melius aut in deterius immutari aut transformari in aliam speciem vel in aliam similitudinem, nisi ab ipso Creatore qui omnia fecit et per quem omnia facta sunt, procul dubio infidelis est et pagano deterior; intimantes insuper seu intimari nichilominus facientes omnibus et singulis jurisdictionum premissorum subditis supradictis quod per hanc nostram ac per dicti generalis consilii provisionem non intendimus prohibere juracionem sed perjurium; quoniam satis intelleximus quod juramentum de se malum non est, cum sit confirmacio veritatis, et si malum de se fuisset profecto Dominus non jurasset qui legitur in Veteri Testamento juravisse, dum legitur juravit Dominus et non penitebit eum, et alibi in eodem

Testamento scribitur Redde Deo juramenta tua : ceterum non <sup>1431.</sup> debet quemquam propria voluntate inducere ad jurandum sed necessitas trahere oportuna, et tunc potest impune jurare, dummodo illos tres comites haberet juramentum de quibus propheta ait scilicet veritatem, iudicium et justiciam ; assiduitas tamen jurandi a canone prohibetur, quia ex frequenti et incauta juracione perjurium sepe contingit ; premissis insuper adjiciendo vobis auctoritate premissa mandamus quatinus omnibus et singulis jurisdictionum premissarum expresse monendo inhibentes sub excommunicationis pena ne quisquam sua temeritate sacram Scripturam seu aliquam ejus partem li[n]guam Anglicanam, que nostra vulgaris esse dinoscitur, ullo modo transferat neque libros Scripture in ydioma Anglicum translate, per octo dies a tempore monicionis et inhibicionis hujusmodi continue numerandos, penes se retinere vel occultare presumat, sed nobis vel commissario nostro in hac parte infra tempus predictum eos deferat actualiter ad examen : contravenientes vel non parentes in hac parte, (monicione vestra, ymmo dicti consilii atque nostra hujusmodi, culpa sua precedentibus) mandamus dicta auctoritate fore excommunicationis majoris sententia sanctorum patrum constitutionibus in hac parte proinde lata actualiter involutos et excommunicatos nuncietis seu faciatis publice nunciari donec in premissis paruerunt cum effectu. Quorum absolucionem atque culpabilitatem in sortilegii reatu atque perjurii crimine sicuti premititur nobismet ex causa specialiter reservamus ; et si quis ordinarius nobis inferior, curatus, sacerdos, vel frater admissus, in aliquo casuum premissorum absolvere presumpserit, pro non absoluto pronunciamus, ymmo ipso facto irritum et inane decernimus in hiis scriptis. Mandamus vobis insuper auctoritate et virtute qua supra, quatinus tam de sortilegis hujusmodi quam de transferentibus, scribentibus et possidentibus libros hujusmodi sic, ut premititur, in nostro vulgari translatos inquisitionem singulis annis faciatis et infra jurisdictiones premissas continuo diligentem, et si quos repperitis tam libros quam nomina sortilegorum, scriptorum et possessorum librorum hujusmodi nobis mittere et continuo nunciare omni festinatione possibili effectualiter procuretis, ut nos insuper hiis pastoralis officii debitum exequi valeamus. Et quid feceritis aut repperitis in premissis nos, literis vestris patentibus harum seriem continentibus authen-

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tice sigillatis nobis citra proximam Quadragesimam transmittendis, reddatis debite certiores. Data in manerio nostro de Dogmersfeld xxiii<sup>to</sup> die mensis Augusti 1431, etc.

Et emanavit consimile mandatum archidiacono Wellensi pro archidiaconatu suo, mutatis prout decuit mutandis.

Et emanavit tercium mandatum archidiacono Bathoniensi pro archidiaconatu suo.

Et emanavit quartum mandatum archidiacono Tauntoniensi pro archidiaconatu suo.

Et emanavit quintum mandatum abbati monasterii Glastonie pro iurisdiccione sua.

333. Monitio contra clericos concubinaros. In Dei nomine, Amen Johannes etc. Pudiciam, gemmam virtutum, optantes in clericis nostre diocesis et maxime in sacris ordinibus constitutis cum effectu fulgere, quibus potest non solum persuaderi sed ex assumpte professionis vinculo eciam imperari, volentesque sicuti ex debito pastoralis solitudinis astringimur illud turpitudinis libidinose contagium de clero nostre diocesis, quantum cum Deo possumus, nunc salutarium tradicionem monicionum, nunc comminatione penarum, et aliquociens execucione proinde latarum in hac parte a sanctis patribus constitutionum, tollere diligenter, eoque celerius quo, preter scandalum quod exinde in Dei ecclesia generatur, laici perniciosum similia perpetrandi sibi sumunt exemplum et nova quadam assumpta malicia sacrilega animadvertendi in clericos quasi iurisdiccione et coherencem ecclesiasticam per indictamenti flagicium satagunt usurpare. precipimus clericis nostre diocesis omnem libidinem prorsus fugientes continenter vivant. Atque felicitis recordacionis Alexandri pape tercii ac bone memorie dominorum Othonis et Ottoboni nuper in Anglia legatorum, provincialesque ac sinodales constitutiones recensentes universos et singulos de clero nostre diocesis concubinaros, primo, secundo, et tercio, peremptorie in hiis scriptis monemus quatinus suas, sive fornicarias vel adulterinas, quas in propriis vel alienis domibus publice detinent concubinas prorsus a se removeant infra mensem eas vel alias nullatenus decetero retenturi, sub pena suspencionis ab officio et beneficio, qua omnes et singulos de clero ipsius nostre diocesis presentes, si hanc nostram monicionem sic in genere factam et



lapsum mensis predicti in vicio incontinenzie perseveraverint, 1431.  
ligatos esse ipso facto decernimus in hiis scriptis, intimantes quod  
ad execucionem privacionis contra quemlibet in specie, ut premit-  
titur, in hac parte culpabilem nisi super hoc digne satisfecerit  
actualiter procedetur acsi in premissis ei facta fuerit monicio  
specialis.

Mandate in pursuance to the archdeacon of Wells, to publish the  
foregoing to the clergy assembled apart from the laity four times  
a year in general chapters and find by inquisition clerks having  
concubines in his archdeaconry.

The like to the archdeacon of Bath.

Fol. 68.

The like to the archdeacon of Taunton.

The like to the abbot of Glastonbury.

334. Sept. 3. Woky manor. In furtherance of an exchange  
of benefices between Sirs Henry Wise, perpetual vicar of the  
parish church of Twyverton and Thomas Hale, perpetual vicar  
of the parish church of Inglescombe, the bishop instituted the  
first named to the vicarage of Inglescombe, at the presentation of  
the prior and chapter of Bath, and Sir Thomas to the vicarage of  
Twyverton, at the presentation of the prioress and nuns of  
Kington, of the diocese of Salisbury.

335. Sept. 4. Woky manor. The bishop instituted Sir John  
Clerk, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Powlet,  
at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's,  
Bristol; and assigned to Sir Thomas Cote, the outgoing vicar, a  
pension of 7 marks for life out of the fruits of the vicarage.

336. Sept. 5. Bruggewater. He instituted Sir John Robyn, Fol. 68d.  
priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Netherstowey; at  
the presentation of the prior and convent of Goldclive, of the  
diocese of Llandaff.

337. Sept. 11. Woky manor. He instituted Sir John  
Colswayn, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of  
Bruggewater; at the presentation of the master and brethren of  
the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bruggewater.

Decree of the bishop assigning to Sir John Coors, who  
resigned the said vicarage of Bruggewater into the hands of the

1431. late bishop on account of old age and weakness, a pension of 10 marks for life out of the fruits of the vicarage. The said John Colswayn had been instituted in the vicarage by the late bishop, but it has since been represented to the present bishop that the resigning vicar is left without any means of subsistence, and he has, therefore, ordained a pension for him as above. Dated in Woky manor, 10 September, 1431.
- Fol. 69.

338. Commission of bishop John to Master John Bernard, canon and succentor of Wells, and the bishop's commissary general, to enquire touching the truth of an instrument of resignation by Richard Bilton, rector, as he asserted, of the parish church of Oterhampton, of his said church; and to certify the bishop thereon within one month from the receipt of these presents. Dated in Woky manor, 11 September, 1431, etc.

[*Note in the margin*] Oct. 12. Dogmersfeld. The bishop having been instructed as to the truth of the instrument of resignation, instituted Sir John Batyn, priest, to the church of Oterhampton, at the presentation of Elizabeth, lady of Trevet. Rob. Groute.

339. Sept. 15. Yevell. The bishop instituted Sir Lewis Davy, priest, as rector of the parish church of Penne Dummer, vacant by the death of John Mey; at the presentation of Richard Stourton and John Dyker.

340. As above. He instituted Gilbert Max, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Barton; at the presentation of Sir John Shelford, canon and prebendary of the prebend of Barton, in the cathedral church of Wells.

- Fol. 69d. 341. Sept. 17. Everkrich manor. He instituted Sir Thomas Benet, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Chilterne Dommere, vacant by the free resignation of Sir Thomas Somerton; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

342. Oct. 3. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Thomas Mone, priest, as rector of the parish church of Sanford Orkays, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Iford; at the presentation of John Palton, esquire.

343. Oct. 11. Dogmersfeld manor. He collated Sir Nicholas <sup>1431.</sup> Beale, priest, to the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Stowey by Chiewe; and a letter was written for his induction to Master John Bernard, guardian of the peculiar jurisdiction of Chiewe.

344. Commissio virtute brevis regii immediate subscripti. Commission to Master John Bernard, the bishop's commissary general, to make inquisition with all possible speed, touching the estimated yearly value of all benefices within the diocese, not taxed nor usually paying tenths, the true yearly value of which does not exceed the sum of 12 marks, and of all benefices, taxed and not taxed, and not paying tenths, of the estimated value of less than 12 marks yearly, in which the rectors or vicars are personally resident or from which they are absent with the bishop's licence in any university of the realm; as well as touching benefices impoverished by flood, fire, or other accident, and other benefices which, because of their poverty, are unofficiated, and benefices of rectors, vicars and other beneficed ecclesiastics who before Christmas last were indicted of rape of women or felony; associating with himself, if expedient for the more speedy taking of the inquisition, the officials of the archdeacons of Wells, Bath and Taunton, and Master John Boghere, notary public. He is to report to the bishop by 24 October at the latest, by letters patent and close, under the seal of his office, containing the series of these and what he has done and found in this. The bishop commits to the said commissary his functions with the power of every canonical coercion, commanding him to bear himself in the premises in such wise that the bishop may be able to certify the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the names of such benefices and beneficed persons by the feast of SS. Simon and Jude, according to the requirement of the king's writ sent to the bishop two days before the date of these presents. Dated in our manor of Dogmersfeld, 9 October, 1431, etc.

Deputatio collectorum unius medietatis decime de beneficiis taxatis et non taxatis, virtute brevis regii per modum ut infra.

The bishop, pursuant to a writ of the king, witnessed by <sup>Fol. 69d</sup> Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, guardian of England, at Westminster, 26 September, 10 Henry VI. [*to the same effect as like writs* <sup>to 71.</sup>]

1431.

*above*], to collect in the diocese the moiety of the tenth granted to the king in the convocation of the province of Canterbury, celebrated in the church of St. Paul, London, from 19 February last to 21 March following, which is due to be paid at the Exchequer at Martinmas next. Dated in his inn at London, 25 October, 1431, etc.

BENEFICIA ECCLESIASTICA INFRA DIOCESIM NON TAXATA  
NEC AD DECIMAM SOLVERE CONSUETA QUORUM VERUS VALOR  
ANNUUS SUMMAM DUODECIM MARCARUM EXCEDIT DE QUI-  
BUS ERGA FESTUM SANCTI MARTINI PROXIMUM HAC VICE  
SOLVETUR MEDIETAS DECIME DOMINO REGI VIRTUTE CON-  
CESSIONIS DE QUA FIT MENCIO IN BREVI CUJUS TENOR  
INSERITUR IN LITTERIS HIIIS ANNEXIS.

In decanatu de Cary.

Ecclesia de Corscomb	xiiij marc'.
" " Blakford	xiiij marc'.
Vicaria de Cary	xv marc'.

In decanatu de Ilchestre.

Ecclesia de Pytteney	xij marc'.
Vicaria de Kyngesbury	xv marc'.

In decanatu de Axbrugge.

Vicaria de Wedmore	xv marc'.
" " Bannewell	xiiij marc'.
" " Southbrent	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " Wynscomb	xiiij marc'.
" " Burnham	xv marc'.
" " Eastbrent	xiiij marc'.
" " Euestoke	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " Berwe	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " [Worle]	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .

In decanatu de Bathe.

Vicaria Beate Marie de Stallis, Bathonie,	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" Sancti Michaelis extra portam boriale	
" Bathonie	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" Southstoke	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" Batheneston	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .

## In decanatu de Mersshton.

1431.

Vicaria de Modford	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " Henstrugge	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
non ponatur in cedula quia taxatur ab antiquo,	

## In decanatu de Radclif.

Ecclesia de Henton Bluet	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " Staunton Priour	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
Vicaria de Clyvedon	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" Sancte Crucis Templi	xiij marc'.
" de Asshton	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " Yatton	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .

## In decanatu de Crukern.

Ecclesia de Hacche	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " Chafcombe	xiij marc'.
Vicaria de Chierde	xiij marc'.
" " Ilmystre	xv marc'.
" " Coryrivell	xiij marc'.

## In decanatu Taunton.

Fol. 71*d*.

Ecclesia de Kidesforde	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
Vicaria de Kyngeston	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " Bradford	xiij marc'.
Ecclesia de Orchard	xiij marc'.
Vicaria de Lydiard Episcopi	xiij marc'.

## In decanatu de Dunsterr.

Ecclesia de Skilgate	xiij marc'.
" " Dulverton	xiij marc'.
Vicaria de Brompton Regis	xiij marc'.
" " Mynhede	xx marc'.
Ecclesia de Wydecomb	xiij marc'.
Vicaria de Stokegommer	xiij marc'.
" " Cudecomb	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .

## In decanatu Bruggewater.

Ecclesia de Fydington	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .
" " Gotehurst	xij marc' vjs. viij <i>d</i> .

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BENEFICIA INFRA DIOCESIM TAXATA ET AD DECIMAM  
SOLVERE CONSUETA EXCEPTA A SOLUCIONE MEDIETATIS  
DECIME PREDICTE DOMINO REGI CONCESSE UT PREFERTUR  
PROPTER SUAM EXILITATEM IN QUIBUS CURATI RESIDENT  
SEU SALTEM CUM ABSENTIBUS DISPENSATUR EX CAUSA IN  
DICTA CONCESSIONI EXPRESSATA.

In decanatu de Axbrugge.

Ecclesia de Stokegiffard.

" " Uphull.

Vicaria de Mere.

In decanatu de Frome.

Ecclesia de Wolfrington.

" " Laverton.

" " Orchardlegh.

" " Foxcote.

" " Writlyngton.

In decanatu de Cary.

Vicaria de Pilton.

Ecclesia de Lameyate.

" " Kynwardston.

" " Brotton.

" " Eastludford.

" " Charleton Mesgroos.

In decanatu de Mersshon.

Ecclesia de Sutton Byngam.

" " Gotehill.

" " Chiriton.

" " Stawell.

In decanatu de Ilchestre.

Ecclesia de Sokke.

In decanatu Bathoniensi.

Ecclesia de Swayneswyk.

" " Charlecomb.

Vicaria de Foorde.

Ecclesia de Walcote.

In decanatu de Radclif.

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Ecclesia de Tymesbarwe.

In decanatu Tauntoniensi.

Ecclesia de Somford Arondell.

„ „ Combeflory.

In decanatu de Crukern.

Ecclesia de Dowlisshwake.

345. Oct. 23. London. The bishop collated William Grey, Fol. 72.  
clerk, to a canonry, and the prebend of Bokelande Dynham,  
in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted and invested  
him.

346. Mandatum auctoritate Basiliensis consilii ad pre- Fol. 72  
muniendum clerum ad dictum consilium omni celeritate venire <sup>cont.</sup> to  
prout ad hoc de consuetudine tenetur. 73.

Reynold Kentwode, dean of St. Paul's, London, vicar general  
of Robert, bishop of London, to John, bishop of Bath and  
Wells.

Transmits a copy of a letter of Henry, archbishop of  
Canterbury, dated in his manor of Lamehith, 15 November,  
1431, containing the tenour of a letter of Julian, cardinal deacon  
of St. Angelo, legate in Germany of the apostolic see and  
president of the council of Basle, and the prelates and others in  
the same council, summoning the archbishop and his suffragans  
to the council [*Wilkins, vol. iii, pp. 518, 519*]; and citing him  
and his suffragans to appear at the council personally or by  
proctor. Dated at London, 28 November.

Primum procuratorium domini pro dicto consilio Basiliensi.

In the year 1431, the tenth indiction, the first year of pope  
Eugenius IV., and the third day of the month of December,  
bishop John in his inn at London, in the presence of me, notary  
public, his scribe, and the witnesses written below, fearing justly  
the dangers of the ways and perils of the sea and being engaged  
in various and important business and service of the king,  
appointed Robert, bishop of London, and the learned men

1431. Fol. 73*d*.      Sirs Andrew Holes, bachelor of both laws, Thomas Morice, bachelor in decrees, Robert Sutton, bachelor in laws, John Geel and Theodeucus de Cardecoep, notary public, to be his proctors at the council. And he required of me the underwritten notary public to make one or more public instruments touching the premises. These things were done and recited under the year, etc., aforesaid, there being then present there Masters John Storthwayt, bachelor of both laws, precentor, John Hody, bachelor in decrees, chancellor, and John Daventre, professor of theology, canons of Wells, called as witnesses. And I, Robert Groute, clerk of the diocese of Norwich, notary public by apostolic authority, was present with the witnesses aforesaid while all these things were done as above, and saw, heard and wrote them all down and reduced them into this public form. And as required signed them with my usual sign and name in faith and testimony of all the premises.

Execucio mandati proximo superius descripti pro dicto Basiliensi consilio.

- Fol. 74.      The bishop commits to and commands Master John Bernard, canon and succentor of Wells, his commissary general, to require and admonish all prelates of the diocese, exempt and not exempt, and the chapters of the cathedral churches usually called to councils, to attend the council. And of what he does in the premises he shall certify him by Easter next, by letters patent containing the series of these and the names of those warned. Dated in his inn at London, 20 February, 1431-32, etc.

347. Oct. 28. London. The bishop instituted Sir William Gye, priest, as rector of the parish church of Northstoke; at the presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath.

348. *Pluries* writ of the king, witnessed by W. Babyngton at Westminster 16 July, 9 Henry VI., commanding the bishop to cause John, prior of the house of monks of the Carthusian order, Shene, the bishop's clerk, to come before the king's justices a month after Michaelmas to answer the dean and chapter of the church of St. Andrew, Wells, touching a plea that he render to them 50*l*. 13*s*. 4*d*. arrears of a rent of 25*l*. v*j*s. viii*d*. due to them, and on which the sheriff sent to the justices at Westminster on



the morrow of the Purification last that the prior is a clerk <sup>1431</sup>. beneficed in his bishopric, having no lay fee in his bailiwick where he can be summoned; and to have there this writ.

Return to the above writ.

We John Stafford, bishop of Bath and Wells, certify the king's justices that he has warned the clerk within written to be before them as above and has sequestrated the fruits of his benefice in the diocese; and that for removal of the sequestration and his appearance as aforesaid he has found Thomas Wade and John Clerk as his pledges.

349. Commission of the bishop to his aforesaid commissary general, reciting that he has received a bull of pope Eugenius IV. dated at Rome, at St. Peter, 1431, nones of May in the first year of his pontificate, presented by Robert Craas a layman of the diocese of Exeter, setting forth that the said Robert has made petition to him that whereas he sometime ago legally contracted a marriage with Mariana Godrewey of the said diocese and <sup>Fol. 74d.</sup> begat offspring by her, and it has since come to their knowledge that they are united in the fourth degree of consanguinity, he will declare the said marriage to be void and that he may lawfully marry some other woman not within the prohibited degree, and that, inasmuch as the aforesaid layman, as he asserts, for certain causes holds Edmund, bishop of Exeter, to whom the pope should write in this case, not to be impartial, he by apostolic writing command bishop John to call before him all who should be called and hear the arguments on both sides and then to decree according to the canons, without appeal, and to see that his decree be enforced; and that, being too much occupied with affairs of state to attend to this himself, he by these presents commits to his said commissary general his functions to hear and have cognisance of the matter at some place in his diocese not more than one day's journey distant from the diocese of Exeter, taking with him Master John Boghere, notary public, as scribe and notary in this behalf, and decree finally as shall be found to be according to the canons.

350. Nov. 2. London. A certificate of William, bishop of Lincoln, of and upon a commission to him for an exchange of

1431.

benefices between Sirs Simon Elmon, rector of the parish church of Wayford of the diocese of Bath and Wells, and William Yonge, chaplain of the chantry of Weston Inge of his diocese, was received shewing that he has accordingly instituted Sir William to the church of Wayford, at the presentation of Robert Blanford, esquire, and thereupon his oath of obedience was taken and a letter was written to the archdeacon of Taunton for his induction.

Fol. 75.

351. Nov. 10. London. In furtherance of a commission of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, for an exchange of benefices between Master Richard Cordon, doctor of laws, rector of the parish church of Shorham, with the chapel of Otteford, a dependent thereof, of his immediate jurisdiction, and Sir Thomas Pellican, canon and prebendary of Combe tercia in the cathedral church of Wells, bishop John instituted the latter to the aforesaid church and chapel, reserving his induction and canonical obedience to the archbishop; and collated to the canonry and prebend the aforesaid Master Richard.

352. Dec. 2. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Sir Roger Wyke, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Twyverton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Gale; at the presentation of the prioress and convent of Mynchen Kyngton.

353. Jan. 6, 1431-32. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir William Grene, priest, as rector of the parish church of Bathyalton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Bouchier; at the presentation of John Warre, Joan relict of Thomas Carrew of Bathyalton, and Robert Sydenham.

354. Feb. 14. London. He instituted Sir Roger Knowston, priest, as rector of the parish church of Tresburgh, vacant by the resignation of Sir Walter Toker *alias* Boghere; at the presentation of Sir Thomas Spryng, chaplain, and Robert Sydenham of Bathyalton.

355. Commissio ad absolvendum ab excommunicacionis sententia propter clandestinum matrimonium.

Johannes etc. Magistro Thome Drayton, rectori ecclesie <sup>1432.</sup> parochialis de Lydiard Sancti Laurencii, in decretis bacallario, nostre diocesis, salutem etc. Ad absolvendum in forma juris dilectos in Christo filios Robertum Coker, armigerum, et dominam Margaretam Lutrell qui matrimonium, prout accepimus, clandestinum inter se, contra interdictum ecclesie et constitutionem felicitis recordacionis Innocencii pape tercii, ac contra tenorem provincialium in hac parte provide editarum constitutionum, per vicarium perpetuum ecclesie parochialis de Carampton dicte nostre diocesis, ceterosque hujusmodi matrimonio nuperrime temere interessentes, ab excommunicacionis et suspensionis sentenciis ceterisque penis juris quas occasione premissa sub quadam simplicitate et juris pretensa ignorancia incurrerunt, necnon ad dispensandum in hac parte cum vicario predicto, recepta primitus ab eorum singulis caucione juridica et injuncta eorum singulis penitencia pro modo culpe (utinam salutari!) super quo tuam in hac parte conscienciam in Domino oneramus: Tibi de cujus circumspeccionis industria confidimus *Fol. 75<sup>d</sup>.* vices nostras et plenam tenore presencium concedimus potestatem. Data sub sigillo nostro in hospicio nostro Londonii vicesimo die mensis Februarii 1431-32, etc.

356. Feb. 23. London. The bishop instituted Sir Thomas Dygon, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Compton Dunden, at the presentation of Sir Henry Blakemore, canon and prebendary of Compton Dunden aforesaid in the cathedral church of Wells.

357. March 11. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted William Chapman, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Kynmersdon, vacant by the resignation of Sir John Drury; at the presentation of the prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

358. March 15. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir William Whit, priest, as rector of the parish church of Swayneswyk; at the presentation of Edward Forde, esquire.

1432. SEQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCCCV<sup>mus</sup> TRICESIMUS  
SECUNDUS.

359. March 26. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Batyn, priest, as rector of the parish church of Gotehurst; at the presentation of William Paulet of Melcomb, Hugh Cary, William Dodesham, William Hastyng, Sir Nicholas, rector of Stokelynych Mawdelen, and Sir William Clyve, vicar of the parish church of Dulverton.

360. March 27. London. He instituted Sir John Attyea, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Chilterne Dummer, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Benet; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruton.

Fol. 76. 361. March 28. London. In furtherance of a commission of Henry, cardinal priest of St. Eusebius, bishop of Winchester, for an exchange of benefices between Sir Robert Bothe, rector of the parish church of the Holy Trinity, Gildesford, of his diocese and Robert Feriby, rector of the parish church of Bakke-well Magna, bishop John instituted the last named to the said church of the Holy Trinity, at the presentation of the prior and convent of St. Mary's, Merton, and Sir Robert Bothe to the said church of Bakkewell.

362. April 9. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Sir John Cadbury, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Montacute, vacant by the resignation of Sir Robert Levermore, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute. And thereupon he decreed a pension of 100s. for life to the said Sir Robert, to be paid quarterly.

363. May 6. London. He instituted Sir John Chamberlein, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Eastchynnok; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute.

364. April 26. Dogmersfeld manor. He collated Robert Groute, clerk, to the free chapel of Blakeford, vacant by the death of Sir John Colmy, last rector or warden of the same. And when he had sworn obedience a letter was written to the commissary general aforesaid for his induction.

365. May 15. London. He instituted Sir John Spore, priest, <sup>1432.</sup> as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Muchilney, vacant by the death of Sir Richard Ferby, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Muchilney.

366. Provision by the bishop of the priory or house of nuns of Barowe of the order of St. Benedict, the disposition of which has lapsed to him according to the statutes of the Lateran council, by reason of long vacancy, to Joan Stabler, one of the nuns; and commission to her for the cure and administration of the same in spiritualities and temporalities. Dated in his inn at London 20 May, 1432, the eighth year of his consecration.

367. June 5. London. The bishop collated Master William Bykonell, bachelor in laws, to a canonry, and the prebend of Cory, in the cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the resignation of Roger Coryndon, and instituted and invested him.

368. Collation by the bishop, as commissary of Richard, archbishop of Dublin, of Sir Ralph Lought, *alias* Thomasson, priest, to a canonry, and the prebend of Congrave, *alias* Conyngrave, in the king's free chapel of St. Michael, Penkrich, vacant by the resignation of Master Richard Tone, and institution and investment of him in the same, saving always the episcopal rights and customs of the archbishop. Dated under his seal, in his inn at London, 10 June, 1432, etc. And a letter was written at once to Master John Russhbury, canon and residenciary in the free chapel for his induction, etc.

369. Bishop John to the justices of the Bench. On receipt of the king's writ annexed to these presents we caused our register and those of our predecessors and all other things with us bearing on the matter of the writ to be diligently searched, and find in these that one John Seintpoull for his demerits was deprived of the administration and rule of the house or hospital of St. John, Bristol, and one brother Robert Ligger, professed in the order of the hospital, was admitted to the wardenship and administration of the hospital in the seventh year of the present king's grandfather of the king that now is, but we nowhere find that the said John on Friday after St. Katharine the Virgin, in

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1432.

the year of the said late king of England mentioned in the writ or at any time before or since that Friday or at the time of the making of the writing alluded to in the writ was elected, presented or admitted as master, appointed in form of law or had legal title otherwise in the hospital. In testimony whereof our seal has been appended to these presents. Dated at London in our inn, 30 June, 10 Henry VI. the seventh year of our consecration.

Henricus etc. Johanni etc. salutem. Cum Johannes Bakwell de Badecomb in comitatu Somersetie, housbondman, et Alicia uxor ejus in curia nostra coram justiciariis nostris apud Westmonasterium attachiati fuerunt ad respondendum Nicholao Sterre, magistro domus sive hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste in Radeclivepitte, Bristolli, de placito quare iidem Johannes et Alicia die Lune proximo post festum Nativitatis Sancti Johannis Baptiste anno regni nostri nono vi et armis clausum et domos ipsius Nicholai apud Badecomb fregerunt et blada, videlicet frumentum, ordeum, fabas, pisas et avenas, et herbam, sua, ad valenciam centum solidorum ibidem nuper existencia cum quibusdam averiis depasti fuerunt, conculcaverunt et consumpserunt contra pacem nostram; iidem Johannes et Alicia in eadem curia nostra comparentes dixerunt quod predictus Nicholaus actionem predictam versus eos habere non deberet pro eo quod diu ante predictam diem Lune quo supponitur transgressionem predictam fieri quidam Johannes Seintpoull nuper magister domus sive hospitalis predicti canonice electus, presentatus et admissus ac in magistrum domus sive hospitalis predicti in forma juris prefatus [? prefectus], predecessor predicti Nicholai nunc magistri, fuit seisitus et de jure ejusdem domus sive hospitalis de uno cotagio vocato "Horstenement" cum tribuscroftis adjacentibus, uno ferlingo terre continente, iiij<sup>or</sup> acras cum iiij<sup>or</sup> parcellis terre cum pertinenciis in predicta villa de Bodecomb (*sic*), unde locus in quo supponitur transgressionem predictam fieri est parcella, in dominico suo ut de feodo et jure domus sive hospitalis sui predicti; et sic inde seisitus per quoddam scriptum suum indentatum communi sigillo ipsius nunc magistri et conventus sui consignatum, in eadem curia nostra prolatum, cujus data est apud Bristollum in domo capitulari ipsius nunc magistri et conventus, die Veneris proximo post festum Sancte Katerine

Virginis, anno regni domini Henrici nuper regis Anglie, avi nostri, quarto, ex consensu et assensu ipsorum nunc magistri et conventus tradidit, et concessit, ac dicto scripto suo confirmavit prefatis Johanni Bakwell et Alicie ad vitam ipsorum Johannis et Alicie, tenementa predicta cum pertinenciis, reddendo inde annuatim prefatis tunc magistro et conventui et successoribus suis tres solidos et quatuor denarios, virtute quarum tradicionis, concessionis et confirmacionis iidem Johannes et Alicia, tempore transgressionis predictę supposite, de tenementis illis cum pertinenciis ut de libero tenemento seisiti, clausum predictum tanquam solum et liberum tenementum suum tunc intraverunt et blada et herbam predicta ibidem nuper crescencia tanquam blada et herbam sua propria cum averiis predictis adtunc depasci fuerunt, conculcaverunt et consumpserunt prout eis bene licuit; et illud pretendentes verificare pecierunt iudicium si predictus Nicholaus aliquam injuriam inde in casu illo in personis suis assignari posset; ad quod idem Nicholaus in eadem curia nostra replicando dixit se ab occasione transgressionis predictę versus prefatos Johannem Bakwell et Aliciam habenda per aliqua per ipsos prealligata excludi non debere; quia dixit quod iidem Johannes et Alicia vi et armis de injuria [*wrongly written* mure] sua propria fecerunt transgressionem illam in forma que ipse superior versus eos queritur, absque hoc quod predictus Johannes Seintpoull tempore confeccionis scripti predicti fuit magister domus etc. (*ut supra*) [ut] predicti Johannes Bakwell et Alicia superius allegarunt et illud pretendebat verificare ubi et quando et prout curia nostra consideraret. Ad quod iidem Johannes et Alicia dixerunt quod predictus Johannes Seintpoull tempore confeccionis scripti predicti fuit magister etc. et illud pretendebant verificare ubi et quando etc. Et quia hujusmodi cause cognicio ad forum spectat ecclesiasticum, vobis mandamus quod scrutatis registris et aliis in hac parte de jure requisitis premissa tangentibus penes vos residentibus constare faciatis per literas vestras sigillatas, patentes et clausas, justiciariis nostris apud Westmonasterium in octabis Sancti Johannis Baptiste si predictus Johannes Seintpoull tempore confeccionis predicti fuerit magister domus sive hospitalis predicti canonice electus, presentatus, admissus et in magistrum prefectus in forma juris necne. Et habeatis ibi hoc breve. Teste W. Babyngton apud West-

Fol. 76d.

1432. monasterium xiiij die Februarii anno regni nostri decimo. Ro. cccxix Heuster.

370. Manumissio Thome Jeel alias dicti Thome Woky.

Universis Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes littere pervenerint Johannes etc. salutem in domino sempiternam. Noverit universitas vestra nos pro nobis et successoribus nostris, Dei amore, caritatisque intuitu, ac pro salute anime nostre et animarum predecessorum nostrorum, Thomam Jeel alias Thomam Woky servum seu nativum nostrum infra dominium nostrum sive manerium de Woky in comitatu Somersetie oriundum manumisisse et ab omni iugo servitutis naevitatis sive villenagii prorsus liberasse, libertatemque eidem concessisse ac liberum fecisse cum omnibus bonis et catallis suis ac tota prole et sequela sua amodo procreanda imperpetuum ; ita quod nec nos Johannes episcopus aut successores nostri quicumque aliquod jus vel clameum, accionem vel obsequium, ratione servitutis, naevitatis, villenagii sive condicionis servilis hujusmodi erga prefatum Thomam aut prolem vel sequelam suam predictam sive in bonis et catallis suis amodo exigere, habere seu vindicare poterimus quomodo libet in futurum ; sed quod nos Johannes episcopus et successores nostri predicti inde perpetuo excludamur, iidemque Thomas cum prole et sequela sua pretaxata et cum omnibus bonis et catallis suis supradictis liber et libere condicionis amodo in futurum semper existat ab omni iugo servilis condicionis et villenagii penitus liberatus. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi Data in hospicio nostro Londonii octavo die mensis Julii anno domini millesimo cccc<sup>mo</sup> xxxij<sup>o</sup> etc.

371. July 7. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Smyth, priest, in the person of Master John Kermerdyn, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry for the souls of Ralph de Salopia, late bishop of Bath and Wells, John Somerton, abbot of Muchilney, and others lately founded at the altar of St. Martin in the cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the death of Sir William Pokyngton, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Muchilney.

- Fol. 77. 372. Bishop JOHN to the archdeacon of WELLS. He has received letters of Master Reynold Kentwode, dean of St. Paul's,



London, vicar-general of Robert, bishop of London, dated at 1432. London under his seal of office, 5 July, 1432, transmitting a mandate of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in Lamehith manor on 15 June, 1432, to the said bishop of London to cause the subsidy of 2*d.* of the pound of all ecclesiastical goods, benefices and possessions, taxed and not taxed, as granted in the late convocation for the expenses of those to be sent to the council of Basle, to be levied by the archdeacons and delivered to the said dean and Master John Lyndefeld, archdeacon of Chichester, examiner-general of the archbishop's court of Canterbury, the receivers of the subsidy elected by convocation, by the feast of St. Bartholomew next at the latest; and he accordingly com-  
 Fol. 77*v.*  
 mands him to levy and deliver the same as above so far as concerns him, the church and city of Wells, the jurisdiction of Glastonbury and his whole archdeaconry. Dated in his inn at London, xiiij<sup>o</sup> July, 1432, etc.

373. Aug. 8. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Sir Richard Maister, priest, in the person of John Woderooft, literate, his proctor, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Criche, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Gosse; at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute.

374. Sept. 1. London. He instituted Sir Richard Padowade, priest, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry founded for the soul of Sir Henry Husee, sometime dean of Wells, at the altar of St. Kalixtus, in the cathedral church of Wells; at the presentation of the president of the chapter, patron in the absence of the dean.

375. Manumission of Thomas Stret, of Westerley, the younger, son of John Stret the younger, the bishop's serf or bondman within his lordship or manor of Pokelchurch, co. Gloucester. Dated in Dogmersfeld manor, 4 September, 1432, Fol. 78. etc. [See No. 380.]

376. Sept. 4. Dogmersfeld. A certificate of Robert, bishop of Salisbury, upon a commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Roger Bradway, rector of the parish church of Benangre, and Thomas Derby, rector of the parish

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church of Patney, of the diocese of Salisbury, was received, by which it appeared that he had accordingly instituted the latter to the church of Benangre at the presentation of Master John Daventre, canon and prebendary of Benangre, in the cathedral church of Wells; and upon this his oath of obedience was received, and a letter was written to the dean of Wells for his induction.

Fol. 78*d*.

377. Bishop JOHN to HENRY, archbishop of CANTERBURY, or his commissaries and deputies. He received on 2 August last letters of the above-said vicar-general of Robert, bishop of London, dated at London, 23 July, 1432, the archbishop's mandate to the last-named, dated in Mortlake manor, 21 July, to summon the convocation of the province of Canterbury to appear in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, on the morrow of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, to wit 15 September next, and by authority of those letters he has caused the dean of Wells, the prior of Bath, the chapters of the same churches, and the archdeacons, abbots, and priors having convents under them, and the other prelates, exempt and not exempt, and clergy of his diocese to be warned to appear as above, the dean, archdeacons, abbots, priors, and other prelates, in person, and the chapter of each of his two cathedral churches, by one proctor, and the clergy by two proctors. Dated at Dogmersfeld, 6 September, 1432, etc.

Fol. 79.

378. Sept. 6. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Sir William White, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of West Dawlish, vacant by the death of Sir William White; at the presentation of John Speke, esquire.

379. A Commission to Sir Nicholas, rector of the parish church of Hemyngton, to make inquisition touching a faithful relation which has come to the bishop's hearing that Sir William Chepman, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Kynmersdon, does not make the due residence in such vicarage which by his oath, made according to the legatine constitutions, he is bound to make, but has absented himself for no reasonable cause, without any dispensation or licence, leaving the vicarage desolate and defrauded of the services due, and the cure of souls (alas!) neglected. He is to admonish the said Sir William, and cite

him publicly and solemnly for three Sundays during the celebration of Mass in the parish church of Kynmersdon, where by common law he is bound to make continual personal residence, as is aforesaid, before his acquaintance and neighbours, that within one month from the time of the third monition and citation he return and duly exercise the cure of his church on pain of privation and perpetual removal, and to certify the bishop by Michaelmas, by letters with an authentic seal, of the day of the receipt of these presents and of the monition and citation made by him, and of what he has done in the premises. Dated at Dogmersfeld manor, 2 September, 1432, etc.

380. A commission to Richard, bishop of Innis Scatterry, to consecrate and bless the altar erected in the chapel built to the honour of St. Anne within the *scepta* of the new hall or new college in the Montroy of the city of Wells.

Licencia ad celebrandum in dicta capella. Johannes etc. dilectis in Christo filiis capellanis perpetuis nove aule sive novi collegii in la Montroy civitatis nostre Wellie salutem etc. Ut in notorie infirmitatis sive juste necessitatis unius vel plurium dicti collegii capellanorum articulo missam voce submissa unam tantum in die pro hujuscemodi necessitatis modo in capella ad honorem Sancte Anne infra *scepta* dicti collegii edificata possitis facere celebrari, dumtamen ecclesie nostre cathedralis Wellie et cultus Divini laudabili consuetudine et honori in eadem nullum prejudicium generetur aut fraus vel impedimentum ordinacioni cantuarum in ecclesia predicta exinde nullatenus oriatur nec ullum mali exempli aut indevocionis ex hac causa suscitetur exemplum; vobis licenciam tenore presencium ad nostrum beneplacitum duraturam concedimus specialem. Data in hospicio nostro Londonii vicesimo primo die mensis Septembris, 1432, etc.

381. Sept. 22. London. The bishop instituted John Wareyn, acolyte, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry in the chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, Wollavyngton, vacant by the death of Sir Walter Tylloly; at the presentation of Sir John Vernay the younger, esquire.

382. Johannes etc. Magistro Johanni Bernard, canonico et succentori ecclesie nostre cathedralis Wellensis ac commissario Fol. 79d.

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nostro generali salutem etc. Fidedigna atque lamentabili relatione dilectorum filiorum parochianorum ecclesie parochialis de Kynmersdon nostris est auribus nuperrime divulgatum, quod vicaria perpetua ecclesie predictae per negligenciam cujusdam Willelmi Chapman vicarii asserti ejusdem ultra medium annum est deserta et habita prorsus pro derelicta, et cura animarum ibidem, quod cum dolore referimus, est neglecta pariters in eadem. Cujus rei gracia prefatum Willelmum moneri et citari fecimus in forma juris quod ad dictam vicariam venire et residenciam ibi facere personalem juxta sanctorum patrum traditiones infra certum tempus jam effluxum sub pena juris, prout in litteris certificatoriis nobis superinde factis quas unacum presentibus vobis transmittimus plenius continetur. Et licet ex inchoato processu, de quo tangitur in litteris certificatoriis supradictis, posset juridice procedi ad ammocionem Willelmi asserti vicarii pretaxati ad quam volumus et precimus vobis procedere inclusive; et nisi quatenus de resignacione de qua infrascriptur coram vobis liquide poterit apparere, quia tamen accepimus credibiliter quod Willelmus assertus vicarius predictus resignacionem dicte vicarie fecit mense Marcii ultimo preterito in presencia notarii publici et testium ad hoc specialiter rogatorum, per quam, si de ea liquide constare poterit utputa rite facta in presencia notarii rite creati et testium hujusmodi, ut prefertur, via proximior et pro consciencia tutior ad vacationis declaracionem captari valebit, ad remedium celerius et provisionem promciorem cure predictae sic longe lamentabiliter desolate. Cui juxta commissi debitum officii cupimus summo opere efficaciter provideri; verum quia in remotis agentes regis et regni negociis arduis multipliciter occupati appositioni remedii in premissis attendere non valemus, vobis committimus et mandamus quatinus assumpto vobis Magistro Johanne Boghere, notario publico, in scribam in hac parte summarie et de plano de die in diem propter pericula animarum et in favorem cure hujusmodi legitime procedentes, docto coram vobis legitime de resignacione hujusmodi per instrumentum sub manu publica notarii rite et legitime creati ac testium, ut prefertur, resignacionem hujusmodi nostra auctoritate admittatis et vicariam hujusmodi vacare actualiter per sentenciam declaretis presbiterumque idoneum rite ordinatum, super quo conscienciam vestram oneramus, ad dictam vicariam legitime

presentatum admittatis et instituatis in debita forma juris, et post 1432. receptum ab eodem nomine nostro obediencie juramentum ipsum in corporalem possessionem induci cum plenitudine juris canonici faciatis. Et de omni eo quod feceritis in premissis nos citra festum Natalis Domini proximum jam futurum, remissis presentibus, reddatis plene et auctentice certiores. Data in manerio nostro de Dogmersfeld quinto die mensis Octobris, 1432, etc.

383. Nov. 3. London. In furtherance of a commission of Edmund, bishop of Exeter, for an exchange of benefices between Sirs William Dene, rector of the parish church of Hethfyld Durburgh, and William Parker, possessor of the perpetual chantry of Mortho, of the diocese of Exeter, bishop John instituted Sir William Dene in the person of Sir John Lane, chaplain, his proctor, as perpetual chaplain of the said chantry, at the presentation of John, earl of Huntingdon and count of Ivry, reserving his induction and obedience; and Sir William Parker Fol. 80. to the said church of Hyghtfeld Durburgh, at the presentation of Robert Malorre, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

384. Certificate by the bishop to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer that, pursuant to a writ of the king, dated at Westminster, 26 September, 10 Henry VI., the tenour of which is in the Exchequer in his certificate upon the deputation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol, to collect one moiety of a tenth granted in the convocation held in the church of St. Paul, London, in February and March in the said year [*marginal note totus tenor istius brevis scribitur in xj<sup>mo</sup> folio precedente*]; he has deputed the abbot and convent of Glastonbury to be collectors of the other moiety of the said tenth, to be paid in the Exchequer at Martinmas. Dated in his inn at London, 3 November, 1432, etc.

BENEFICIA ECCLESIASTICA INFRA DIOCESIM NON TAXATA Fol. 80  
[etc., as above, as far as MENCIO, then] IN LITTERIS QUIBUS cont. and  
PRESENS CEDULA EST ANNEXA [*as above in folios 71 and 71d,* Sod.  
*with these variations.*]

Axbrygge deanery.

Eastbrent is omitted.

1432. Bath deanery.  
St. Mary de Stallis is omitted.

## Part II.

Crukern deanery.  
Eastdowlisshwake is put in place of Dowlisshwake.

- Fol. 81. 385. Nov. 9. London. In furtherance of a commission of Thomas, bishop of Worcester, for an exchange of benefices between Sir William Towker, rector of the parish church of Sparkeford, and Master Richard Elys, dean of the collegiate church of Westbury, of the diocese of Worcester, bishop John collated Sir William to the deanery of Westbury, and instituted him, reserving his induction, etc. ; and instituted the said Master Elys to the church of Sparkeforde, at the presentation of John Rogger.

386. Nov. 19. London. The bishop instituted Sir Richard Cranemore, priest, as rector of the parish church of Corston ; at the presentation of John Copleston and Thomas Gille, esquires.

387. Dec. 12. Dogmersfeld manor. He instituted Sir Thomas Couderow, priest, as rector of the parish church of Haach Beauchamp ; at the presentation of John Saymour, esquire.

388. Dec. 13. Dogmersfeld manor. In furtherance of an exchange of benefices between Sirs David Harneys, rector of the parish church of Assholt, and Henry Yarde, chaplain of the perpetual chantry in the parish church of Ichestoke, the bishop instituted Sir David in the person of Sir Thomas Parle, chaplain, his proctor, to the chantry, at the presentation of William Paulet of Melcombe, Hugh Cary, William Dodesham, William Has-tyng, Sir Nicholas —, rector of the church of Stokelynych Maudelyn, and Sir William Clyve, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Dulverton ; and Sir Henry in the person of Thomas Usk, literate, his proctor, to the church of Assholt ; at the presentation of Thomas Trough, donzel.

Fol. 81*v*.

389. Dec. 14. Dogmersfeld manor. In furtherance of an

exchange of benefices between Sirs William Wyllng, rector of the parish church of North Peret, and John Maydekyn, rector of the parish church of Criket Thomas, the bishop instituted the latter, in the person of Sir John Hirry, chaplain, his proctor, to the church of North Peret, at the presentation of Reynold West, lord of la Warre; and Sir William Wyllng, in the person of Thomas Parle, chaplain, his proctor, to the church of Criket Thomas; at the presentation of William, lord of Botreaux.

390. Execucio mandati proximo infrascripti pro levando subsidio duorum denariorum de libra pro consilio Basiliensi quia primo mandato non erat prout decuit satisfactum.

Johannes etc. episcopus dilecto etc. Magistro Johanni Bernard, succentori et canonico ecclesie nostre cathedralis Wellensis et commissario nostro generali, salutem etc. Litteras venerabilis et discreti viri Reginaldi Kentwode, decani ecclesie Sancti Pauli Londoniensis, domini Roberti Dei gracia Londoniensis episcopi in remotis agentis vicarii in spiritualibus generalis, de mandato domini Henrici Dei gracia Cantuariensis archiepiscopi etc. nobis directas, quarto die mensis instantis nos recepisse noveritis, quas presentibus annexas propter celeriore executionem earundem debite faciendam vobis transmittimus inspiciendas, in virtute obediencie ac sub pena contemptus firmiter injungentes quatinus assumpto vobis statim visis presentibus Magistro Johanne Boghere, notario publico, ac aliis per quos vestra discrecio melius informari poterit, in inquisitionis negotio infrascripto primitus attente considerando quod subsidium duorum videlicet denariorum de libra per prelatos et clerum Cantuariensis provincie de omnibus bonis et beneficiis ecclesiasticis, taxatis et non taxatis ipsius provincie extitit indistincte nuper in convocacione sive consilio provinciali concessum pro expensis transiturorum ad generale consilium Basiliense per archidiaconos locorum singularum diocesum dicte provincie colligendum et solvendum certis receptoribus in hac parte deputatis, prout in eisdem litteris poterit plenius apparere, inquiratis fideliter et summarie cum omni celeritate possibili de nominibus omnium et singulorum beneficiorum nostre diocesis non taxatorum ac de vero valore annuo eorundem, necnon de beneficiis nostre diocesis taxatis ad tantam exilitatem modernis

1432. temporibus notorie redactis quod a solucione dicti subsidii debeant ista vice merito excusari, super quo consciencias vestras sub obstacione Divini iudicii oneramus etc. In cujus etc. Data in hospicio nostro Londonii quarto die mensis Novembris, 1432, etc.

391. Mandatum secundum pro dicto subsidio eo quod primum non erat effectualiter executum.

Bishop JOHN to HENRY, archbishop of CANTERBURY. He received on 24 November last letters of the above vicar general, dated 22 October, 1432, containing the tenour of letters of the archbishop, as follows:—*Licet nos alias per nostras certi tenoris litteras vobis scripsimus pro levacione unius subsidii duorum videlicet denariorum de libra per nos prelatosque et clerum provincie nostre pro expensis. Nulli tamen seu saltem pauci de archidiaconis predictis summam dicti subsidii ipsosque archidiaconatus suos concernentem prefatis receptoribus hucusque fideliter et integraliter, ut accepimus, persolverunt. Nos igitur, negocium illud quod videlicet universalem tangit ecclesiam accelerare pro viribus et promovere volentes, vobis in virtute sancte obediencie firmiter injungendo mandamus quatinus singulos confratres episcopos nostros et ecclesie nostre Cantuariensis suffraganeos et absencium episcoporum vicario in spiritualibus generalibus auctoritate nostra per vestras litteras parum seriem continentes moneatis etc. Data in manerio nostro de Lamethoth, xvij<sup>o</sup>. die mensis Octobris, 1432: and commanding him to give effect to these in his diocese, certifying the archbishop, by letters patent, by the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle at the latest, of what he has done; and also of the persons and places excepted from payment of the subsidy, and of the other things required in the archbishop's letter, in a schedule to be annexed to such letters. Although on account of the late receipt of the archbishop's letters when so much of the time for execution thereof had lapsed, he has not been able to execute according in the form required, he has as far as possible admonished the prelates and clergy of his diocese who are bound to pay the subsidy to satisfy his archdeacons, Masters Thomas Bubbewith, of Wells, and Thomas Warde, of Bath, and Sir Nicholas Calton, of Taunton, of the same, and commanded all persons not paying or*



deferring payment to be set down in a schedule annexed, to appear to answer for their default on 27 January next. The names of the benefices within the diocese which are taxed, but on account of their poverty should be excepted from payment of the subsidy for this turn, as well as the names of the benefices not taxed, with their estimated yearly value, from which by force of the grant the subsidy will be levied for this turn, are contained in the annexed schedule. Dated in Dogmersfeld manor, 31 December.

392. SEQUUNTUR BENEFICIORUM TAXATORUM NOMINA QUE PROPTER SUI EXILITATEM NOTORIAM EXCIPIUNTUR A SOLUCIONE SUBSIDII IN ANNEXIS LITTERIS DESIGNATA.

In decanatu de Frome.

Ecclesia de Benanger.

" " Wolfryngton.

" " Orchardslegh.

" " Foxcote.

" " Cameley.

Vicaria de Norton Canonicorum.

In decanatu de Cary.

Vicaria de Pilton.

Ecclesia de Alleford.

" " Broghton.

" " Eastluddeford.

In decanatu de Crukern.

Ecclesia de Dowlisshwake

" " Donneyate.

In decanatu de Mersshton.

Ecclesia de Sutton Byngnam.

" " Gotehurst.

" " Stowell.

In decanatu de Bathe.

Ecclesia de Charlecomb.

Vicaria de Foorde.

Ecclesia de Wallecote.

## In decanatu de Readclif.

Pensio monialium de Barwe in ecclesia de Twyverton.

Porcio in ecclesia de Backwell.

SEQUNTUR NOMINA BENEFICIORUM MINUTORUM NON  
TAXATORUM DE QUIBUS LEVARI ET SOLVI DEBET SUBSIDIUM  
PREDICTUM PRO RATA JUNTA ESTIMACIONEM PROUT  
INFRASCRIBITUR ANNOTATAM.

Fol. 83*d*.

## In decanatu de Cary.

Ecclesia de Corscomb estimatur ad	14 marcas.
" " Hornblowton " "	vj marcas.
Vicaria de Penard " "	xij marcas.
" " Cary " "	x marcas.
Ecclesia de Blakeford " "	x marcas.

## In decanatu de Ilchestre.

Ecclesia de Lutton estimatur ad	vij marcas.
Vicaria de Chynnok Decani estimatur ad	x marcas.
Ecclesia de Pittenay " "	xij marcas.
Vicaria de Compton Dunden " "	x marcas.
" " Kyngesbury " "	xli.

## In decanatu de Axbrugge.

Vicaria de Southbrent estimatur ad	xij marcas.
Ecclesia de Brene " "	vij marcas.
Vicaria de Worle " "	x marcas.
" " Banewell " "	vij marcas.
Ecclesia de Shepeham " "	vij marcas.
Vicaria de Wedmor " "	xli.
Capella de Blakeford " "	vij marcas.
" " Alverton " "	x marcas.
Vicaria de Wynscomb " "	x marcas.
" " Burneham " "	xli.
" " Woky " "	vij marcas.
" " Westbury " "	xij marcas.

## In decanatu de Crukern.

Ecclesia de Criket Thomas estimatur ad	vij marcas.
" " Hacche " "	vij marcas.
" " Chafcomb " "	x marcas.

Vicaria de Fyfyde estimatur ad			cs.
Ecclesia de Stokelynych Magdalene estimatur ad	viiij	marcas.	
Vicaria de Comb Sancti Nicholai	"	"	xij marcas.
" " Cherde	"	"	xv marcas.
" " Ilmystre	"	"	xviiij marcas.
" " Merylet	"	"	x marcas.
" " Coryryvell	"	"	xv marcas.
Ecclesia de Seburgh	"	"	viiij marcas.
Vicaria de Ile Abbatis	"	"	cs.
Ecclesia de Erneschull	"	"	viiij marcas.

## In decanatu de Mersshton.

Vicaria de Modford estimatur ad			xij marcas.
" " Mersshton	"	"	viiij marcas.

## In decanatu de Bathe.

Vicaria de Weston estimatur ad			x marcas.
" " Batheneston	"	"	x marcas.
Ecclesia de Northstoke	"	"	x marcas.
Vicaria Beate Marie de Stallis estimatur ad	xiiij	marcas.	
Ecclesia Sancti Jacobi estimatur ad			x marcas.
" Beate Marie infra	"	"	viiij marcas.
" Sancti Michaelis extra estimatur ad			xv marcas.
Vicaria de Southstoke	"	"	xiiij marcas.
" " Inglescombe	"	"	cs.

## In decanatu de Readclif.

Ecclesia de Staunton Prioris estimatur ad			viiij marcas.
" " Clutton	"	"	x marcas.
" " Henton Blewet	"	"	x marcas.
" " Oble	"	"	x marcas.
Vicaria de Clyvedon	"	"	xij marcas.
Ecclesia de Weston	"	"	viiij marcas.
Vicaria de Portbury	"	"	x marcas.
" " Tekenham	"	"	vj marcas.
Ecclesia de Chelvey	"	"	viiij marcas.
" " Brockeley	"	"	x marcas.
Vicaria de Longasshton	"	"	xij marcas.
" " Templis, Bristol	"	"	xiiij marcas.
" " Yatton	"	"	xij marcas.

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Vicaria de Easton estimatur ad	viiij marcas.
" " Eastharpetre estimatur ad	viiij marcas.
" " Westharpetre " "	xij marcas.
" " Staunton Drew " "	xij marcas.
Ecclesia de Stoke in Chiew " "	vj marcas.

## In decanatu Tauntonie.

Ecclesia de Kydesford estimatur ad	x marcas.
" " Bathyalton " "	viiij marcas.
Vicaria de Hals " "	x marcas.
" " Kyngeston " "	xij marcas.
" " Bradeforde " "	xij marcas.

## In decanatu de Dunster.

Ecclesia de Sampford estimatur ad	x marcas.
Vicaria de Dulverton " "	xij marcas.
" " Brompton Regis estimatur ad	xij marcas.
" " Mynnehede " "	xxvj marcas.
" " Cudecomb " "	xij marcas.
Ecclesia de Silver " "	viiij marcas.
Vicaria de Stokegommer " "	viiij $\frac{1}{2}$ .
Ecclesia de Wydecomb " "	x marcas.
" " Skilgate " "	ix marcas.
" " Chippestaple " "	ix marcas.
" " Radyngton " "	viiij marcas.

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## In decanatu de Bruggewater.

Vicaria de Stokecursy estimatur ad	viiij marcas.
Ecclesia de Fidyngton " "	x marcas.
" " Ennemere " "	x marcas.
Vicaria de Canyngton " "	x marcas.
Ecclesia de Gotehurst " "	X marcas.
Vicaria de Wemedon " "	viiij marcas.
" " Lenge " "	cs.
" " Lydyard Episcopi estimatur ad	x marcas.
" " Stowey Superior " "	cs.

393. Jan. 12, 1432-33. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Sir John Page, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Kynmersdon, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Chapman; at the presentation of Robert Malorre, prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

394. Jan. 23. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Scoter <sup>1433.</sup>  
*alias* Chelyngton, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church  
of Cheddre, vacant by the death of Sir Thomas Lye; at the  
presentation of the dean and chapter of Wells.

395. Collation by the bishop of Master Thomas Bourghier  
to a canonry and the prebend of Comba terciadecima in the  
cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the death of Sir John  
Godeford; and institution and investment of him. Dated in  
his inn at London, 28 January, 1432-33, etc.

396. Feb. 3. London. In furtherance of a commission of  
Edmund, bishop of Exeter, for an exchange of benefices  
between Sirs Henry Blakmor, prebendary in the church of  
St. Teath in Cornwall of his diocese, and William Morys,  
rector of the parish church of Trente, bishop John collated to Fol. 84v.  
the said prebend in the collation of the first named bishop  
Sir William and instituted him therein in the person of  
Thomas Bouryng, literate, his proctor. He instituted also the  
aforesaid Sir Henry in the person of Sir Robert Parfit, chaplain,  
his proctor to the church of Trente, at the presentation of the  
prior and convent of Stoudley, Thomas Beauchamp, knight, and  
John Botreaux, esquire.

397. Commissio facta ad partes pro execucione testamenti  
super modo et consuetudine mortuarii in parochia de Exford.

Johannes etc. dilectis in Christo, filiis Magistris Johanni  
Bernard canonico et succentori ecclesie nostre Wellensis,  
Johanni Odeland in decretis, principalis porcionis ecclesie de  
Crukern, et Willelmo Fulford, in legibus, bacallariis, de Norton  
ecclesiarum parochialium nostre diocesis rectoribus, salutem etc.  
Revocato in dubium et in judicium, sicut accepimus, contra-  
dictum ratione ratione (*sic*) de et super consuetudine solutionis  
et prestacionis mortuarii de quibuscumque et qualitercumque  
morientibus viris et mulieribus utriusque sexus ecclesie paro-  
chiali de Exford inter dilectos etc. dominum Johannem Mill,  
rectorem ecclesie predicte, ex parte una, et Johannem Hill,  
laicum, ejusdem parochie, executorem sive bonorum administra-  
torem Alicie Hill nuper uxoris sue defuncte dicte parochie de  
Exford tempore mortis sue parochiane, ex parte altera, diucius

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agitata et adhuc pendente indecisa, partes predictæ motu proprio pro litis abbreviacione necnon pro vitandis laboribus et expensis in hac parte declaracionem nostra auctoritate ordinaria sibi fieri ad litem sopiendam in questione premissa a nobis cum instancia supplicarunt. Nos enim finem litibus sicut iudicis est imponere et quieti ac concordie inter filios eorumque commodo providere quantum cum Deo possumus, desiderabiliter affectantes, ceterumque oculariter videntes quod ad emendam veritatem, et declaracionem justicie faciendam in premissis sunt perquam necessarie probaciones clariores et legitima documenta primitus summo opere videnda, rimanda et cum diligencia recensenda priusquam procedatur ad declarandum aliquid finaliter in hoc casu, igitur de vestris circumspeccionibus et conscienciarum puritate plurimum confidentes ad admittendum ea propter vocatis omnino et personaliter seu saltem sufficienter et legitime comparentibus coram vobis in ecclesia parochiali de Exford predicta partibus supradictis, secundo, tercio et quarto ac quinto diebus Marcii proximo venturi cum continuacione et prorogacione dierum, si oporteat, et locorum, recipiendum iurarique videndum in forma juris in presencia utriusque parcium predictarum testes tot quot partes predictæ ad probandam consuetudinem super prestacione et solucione mortuarii de quibuscumque et qualitercumque morientibus infra dictam parochiam, ut prefertur, hactenus usitatam et ante motam litem sive questionem predictam pacifice observatam producere voluerint; dummodo neutra parcium predictarum numerum duodenarum excedat, nisi in casu quo testes pro utraque parte communes produci in parcium presencia contigerit, quos in ipso casu ultra numerum duodenarum recipi et jurari nullatenus permittatis, ipsosque testes omnes et singulos de et super consuetudine prestacionis et solucionis mortuarii in forma predicta ac juxta interrogatoria per utramque parcium predictarum ministranda, si que tempore competenti vobis tradita fuerint, alioquin juxta discrecionem vobis a Deo datam examinandum, dicta quoque et deposiciones testium earundem concordandum, assumpto vobis aliquo notario publico indifferente et neutri parcium predictarum suspecto, vobis conjunctim, et duobus vestrum tercio absente, committimus vices nostras cum cujuslibet cohercionis canonice potestate; mandantes quod omnino premunionem decem dierum ante

previum diem recepcionis testium per vos faciendam ex causa 1433.  
 utrique parcium hujusmodi ad omne minus et intimacionem  
 super premissis fieri clare faciatis data copia presencium  
 earundem utrique, si petatur, pro qua ultra octo denarios recipi  
 nolumus. Et hortamus, volumus insuper et jubemus quod Fol. 85.  
 hujusmodi examinacionis negocio expedito dicta et deposiciones  
 testium hujusmodi, unacum interrogatoriis, si que contigerint, ut  
 premittitur, ministrari, in formam publicam, ita quod fides  
 indubia eisdem tam in iudicio quam extra merito valeat adhiberi  
 redacta, ac signo et subscriptione notarii hujusmodi signant'  
 [? signata] et subscripta, unacum tenore presencium et toto  
 processu coram vobis in hac parte habendo nos citra festum  
 Annunciacionis Beate Marie Virginis proximo futurum vel in  
 eo, sub sigillo autentico clausa, integraliter et fideliter trans-  
 mittatis. Data in hospicio nostro Londonii decimo die mensis  
 Februarii, 1432-33, etc.

398. Feb. 13. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Sir John Benet, priest, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of the chapel of Forde, vacant by the death of Sir Robert Wattes; at the presentation of John Trethek, esquire.

399. ROBERT, bishop of LONDON, to bishop JOHN.

Transmits copy of letters of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in Croydon manor, 31 December, 1432, reciting that the prelates and clergy of the province in the last convocation, perceiving that the subsidy of 2*d.* of the pound granted by them for the expenses of those going to the council of Basle was insufficient, granted another subsidy of 1*d.* in pound to be paid to the same receivers as the first at the Purification next, and granted also that the money in arrear of the subsidy granted at another time for the council of Pavia should be levied from such bishops as have not yet paid the same or from their executors, and all other moneys levied for this, in whosoever hands these now are, should be paid in full to these in relief of the clergy, and commanding him to see at once to the execution of this and of the archbishop's letter to him of 17 October in his own diocese and throughout the province. Commanding also that what has been done in regard to these subsidies be certified to the Fol. 85*d.*

1433. receivers by 1 March next at the latest. Dated in his palace at London, 24 January.

Fol. 86. Mandate of bishop John in pursuance to the archdeacon of Wells. Dated in his inn at London, 3 February, 1432-33, the seventh (*sic*) year of his consecration.

Certificate by the bishop to the aforesaid receivers of the execution of the archbishop's mandate.

The names of benefices taxed which are excepted from payment of the subsidies on account of their poverty; as well as the names of those not taxed with their estimated yearly value, from which, by virtue of the grant, the two subsidies are to be levied for this turn; are contained in a schedule annexed. Dated in his inn at London, 20 February, 1432-33, and the eighth year of his consecration.

The names of the benefices in the diocese, as well those taxed which are excepted from payment for this turn because of their poverty as those not taxed of which the subsidies are to be levied for this turn, are inserted in the third folio preceding.

Fol. 86*d*. 400. March 21. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop collated to Sir John Knoyle, chaplain, the parish church of St. Mary the Great, Ilchestre; and instituted him as rector in the same.

401. Procuratorium ad visitandum limina Apostolorum singulis trienniis.

Universis pateat per presentes quod nos Johannes etc. vi fluminis viarumque discriminibus, adversaque corporis valitudine frequenti, variisque impedimentis aliis justis prepediti quod ecclesiam Romanam et Apostolorum limina personaliter visitare non possumus, licet ei omnem reverenciam debitam facere ex totis viribus affectemus, dilectos nobis in Christo Magistrum Andream Hooles domini nostri pape cubicularium, Robertum Sutton et Thomam Chepman, literarum apostolicarum abbreviatores, communiter et divisim, nostros veros, certos et indubitatos procuratores, actores, factores et negociorum gestores et nuncios speciales, ordinamus facimus et constituimus solempniter per presentes, dantes et concedentes eisdem procuratoribus nostris conjunctim et divisim potestatem generalem et mandatum speciale pro nobis et nomine nostro limina Apostolorum singulis trienniis juxta modum et formam institutaque sacrorum



canonum ac antiquam Romane ecclesie predictæ consuetudinem <sup>1433.</sup> laudabilem in hac parte, sicuti ad hoc tenemur, cum reverencia et obediencia debita visitandi, recogniciones et servicia in hac parte debita agnoscendi et faciendi et in ac pro premissis omnibus et singulis, juxta juris communis et consuetudinis laudabilis in hac parte exigenciam, tractandi, concordandi et componendi, quietaciones et liberationes in hoc casu qualitercumque requisitas sive necessarias, ac beneficium absolucionis a quibuscumque suspensionis, excommunicacionis et interdicti, sentenciis latis seu ferendis petendi et obtinendi, ceteraque omnia et singula faciendi, expediendi et exequendi que in premissis vel eorum aliquo necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet oportuna eciamsi majoris fuerint expressata et mandatum de se magis exigant speciale: ratum, gratum et firmum perpetuo habituri totum et quicquid iidem procuratores vel aliquis eorumdem fecerint seu fecerit in premissis et qualibet premissorum sub ypotheca et obligacione omnium bonorum nostrorum et caucionem exponimus per presentes quas sigilli nostri fecimus appositione muniri. Data in hospicio nostro Londonii xxij<sup>do</sup> die mensis Marcii 1432-33.

SEQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCCC<sup>mus</sup> TRICESIMUS  
TERCIUS.

402. Collation by the Bishop Master Walter Shiryngton, clerk, to a canonry, and the prebend of Wedmoor quinta, in the cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the resignation of Thomas Umfray; and institution and investment of him. Dated in his inn at London, 16 April, 1433, etc. Fol. 87.

403. Commission by the bishop to his commissary general aforesaid to institute Sir John Pille, chaplain, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry of Thomas Hungerford, knight, at the altar of St. Mary in the parish church of St. Leonard, Farley Hungerford; at the presentation of Walter Hungerford, lord of Haytesbury and of Homet. Dated at Canterbury, 19 April, 1433, etc.

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VICESIMO PRIMO DIE MENSIS APRILIS, 1433, DOMINUS ARRIPUIT ITER SUUM VERSUS CALESIUM ET CONSTITUIT MAGISTRUM DAVID PRICE VICARIUM SUUM IN SPIRITUALIBUS GENERALEM AUCTORITATE COMMISSIONIS SUE CUJUS TENOR SEQUITUR IN HEC VERBA.

404. Johannes etc. domino Johanni Forest, decano, Magistro David Price ac domino Johanni Hiller canonicis in ecclesia nostra cathedrali Wellensi salutem etc. Vos et quemlibet vestrum de quorum fidelitate, circumspectionis industria, conscienciarumque puritate sinceriter confidimus, nostros in spiritualibus vicarios tenore presencium constituimus generales; dantes et concedentes vobis et vestrum cuilibet potestatem generalem et mandatum generale atque speciale exercendi, faciendi, expediendi, et exequendi, pro tempore absencie nostre extra regnum Anglie omnia et singula que per vicarium episcopi generalem secundum canonica instituta debeant et poterunt legitime fieri et debite expediri. In cujus etc. Data in hospicio nostro Londonii xiii<sup>o</sup> die mensis Aprilis, 1433, etc.

Fol. 87<sup>a</sup>

405. May 17. Master David Price, vicar general, in his dwelling house by the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, instituted Master William Waynflete, priest, as rector of the parish church of Wroxhale, vacant by the resignation of Sir Nicholas Sturgeon; at the presentation of Theobald Gorges, knight.

406. May 11. Calais. The bishop collated Sir Robert Corf, priest, to a canonry and the prebend of Wedmoor tercia in the cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the death of Master John Cole, and instituted and invested him.

DECIMONONO DIE MENSIS MAII ANNO DOMINI SUPRADICTO DOMINUS REDEUNDO IN REGNUM APPLICUIT DOVORRIAM.

407. May 23. Dogmersfeld manor. The bishop instituted Sir Adam Croppe, priest, as rector of the parish church of Orchard; at the presentation of John Mulys, esquire.

408. Commissio ad inquirendum de natura beneficii de Kylve alias dicti Culve.

Johannes etc. dilectis filiis Magistris Johanni Bernard, 1433.  
canonico et succentori ecclesie nostre cathedralis Wellensis,  
Willelmo Fulford, in legibus bacallario, et Thome Twyford,  
rectori ecclesie parochialis de Luccomb, salutem etc. Suscepti  
regiminis nobis commissi sollicitudo animi nostri pulsatur ut  
singulorum profectibus beneficiorum nostre diocesis diligenter  
quantum cum Deo possumus intendamus; et quia beneficii de  
Kylve alias Culve natura varie apud quamplures accipitur, aliis  
quidem asserentibus id fore cantaria, aliis vero collegium, ceteris  
autem ecclesiam parochialem constanter affirmantibus; quarum  
opinionum pretextu nonnunquam possessori sive rectori  
turbaciones insurgunt, quarum timore eam interdum dimittere  
compellitur vel pro derelicto habere, sic quod cura loci predicti  
frequenter negligitur et vix est aliquis idoneus qui dictum  
beneficium voluerit acceptare. Cumque per agnitam veraciter  
naturam beneficii predicti arbitremur nos posse per officium  
nostre jurisdictionis ordinarie providere in premissis de remedio  
oportuno, de vestris discrecionibus et conscienciarum puritate in  
Domino confidentes, ad inquirendum in forma juris in loco  
beneficii predicti, vocatis primitus in specie tam eo qui se gerit  
pro patrono ibidem ac moderno possessore ejusdem, per rectores  
et vicarios aliosque viros fidedignos, tam clericos quam laicos,  
decanatus illius infra quem beneficium predictum situatum  
existit nature beneficii hujusmodi noticiam meliorem verisimiliter Fol. 83.  
optinentes, in forma juris juratos, de et super natura beneficii  
utrum sit cantaria, collegium, vel parochialis ecclesia, per quem  
regi et in quo ordine constitui debeat intitulatus in eadem, an  
unquam erectum fuit in cantariam vel collegium, et si sic per  
quem vel quos, sub qua forma, quo anno, qua auctoritate, et  
quis tunc erat loci diocesanus, et in quoto numero ministrorum,  
nominibusque, gradibus ac salariis et locis mansionum eorundem,  
quo determinabili censetur is qui debeat presidere de statutis  
quoque et ordinationibus collegii si quod unquam ibi erectum  
fuerat vel aliquialiter inchoatum; necnon de proventibus et  
obvencionibus universis et singulis et in quibus rebus consistant;  
necnon de taxa ac estimacione veri valoris annui omnium  
obvencionum predictarum; de statu cancelli et domorum  
beneficii predicti et omnium aliorum ad illud pertinencium; de  
vite ac morum honestate possessoris moderni dicti beneficii et

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si eidem, tam in cure exercicio quam in sacramentorum et sacramentalium ministracione, digne et laudabiliter serviatur; et si quicquam de juribus dicti beneficii subtrahatur et tunc per quem vel quos et quamdiu et in quanto beneficium leditur ex hac causa; necnon de ceteris articulis et capitulis in tali casu inquiri debitis et consuetis; vocatis eciam in genere vocandis, vobis tribus conjunctim, aut duobus vestrum, tercio absente, vices nostras committimus cum cujuslibet cohercionis canonice potestate: mandantes quatinus de omni eo quod repperieritis et feceritis in premissis nos, dicto inquisicionis negotio debite expedito, literis vestris clausis, harum et inquisicionis vestre seriem continentibus citra vicesimum diem mensis Julii proximo futurum reddatis debite certiores. Data in hospicio nostro Londonii xxiiij<sup>o</sup> die mensis Maii, 1433, etc.

409. June 5. Dogmersfeld. A certificate of Master John Norton, doctor of decrees, vicar general of Robert, bishop of Salisbury, upon bishop John's commissions to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Henton, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Helton of the diocese of Salisbury, and William Cave, perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Yatton, was received, shewing that he has instituted Sir John to the church of Yatton at the presentation of Master John Macworth, canon and prebendary of Yatton aforesaid; in the cathedral church of Wells; and thereupon the oath of obedience of the said John was received and a letter was written to the dean of Wells for his induction.

410. July 1. London. The bishop collated Master John Lukk, professor of theology, to a canonry and the prebend of Comba quartadecima in the cathedral church of Wells; and instituted and invested him.

Fol. 88d.

411. July 2. London. He instituted John Cole, clerk, as rector or warden of the free chapel of Alvodeston, vacant by the death of Master John Cole; at the presentation of Otto Bodrugan and Reynold Tretherf, esquires.

412. July 3. London. A presentation by the abbot and convent of St. Mary's, Kaynesham, of Master Adam Hardle, priest, to the parish church of Holcombe; and because of the

poverty of the benefice a commission *ad partes* went out <sup>1433</sup> directed to Master John Bernard, commissary general, to admit and to set forward ; and to do the other things, etc.

413. July 9. London. The bishop instituted Sir John Batyn, chaplain, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of St. Andrew, Bakwell ; at the presentation of the master and brethren of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, Bristol.

414. July 17. London. He instituted Sir William Tappelgh, chaplain, as rector of the parish church of Ore, vacant by the resignation of Sir William Parker ; at the presentation of Richard Kelly, patron for this turn.

415. July 26. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Gannill, priest, as perpetual chaplain of the chantry in the parish church of Lymyngton, vacant by the death of Sir John Bery ; at the presentation of William Bonevile, knight, patron for this turn.

416. July 28. London. He instituted Sir John Stephyn, priest, as rector of the parish church of Hardyngton ; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Kaynesham.

417. Aug. 3. London. On receipt of the king's presenta- <sup>Fol. 89.</sup> tion of Thomas Levyot, clerk, to the parish church of St. Michael, Ilchestre, the bishop, because of the poverty of the benefice, commanded a commission "*ad partes*" to issue to the above Master John Bernard to admit him, etc.

418. Aug. 7. London. The bishop instituted Sir William Whytlyng, priest, as rector of the parish church of Bledon, vacant by the resignation of Master Robert Thurbarn ; at the presentation of the cardinal priest of St. Eusebius, commonly called cardinal of England.

419. Aug. 13. London. He collated Sir Thomas Astell, priest, to a canonry and prebend of Taunton in the church of Wells, vacant by the resignation of Master William Lyndewode ; and instituted and invested him.

420. Breve regium *ad deputandum collectores medietatis unius integre decime.*

1433.

Henricus etc. J. etc. salutem. Cum vos ceterique prelati et clerus Cantuariensis provincie, in ultima convocacione quinto-decimo die mensis Septembris, 1432, in ecclesia cathedrali Sancti Pauli Londoniensi inchoata et usque in vicesimum quartum diem ejusdem mensis de diebus in dies continuata, concesseritis nobis ad defensionem etc. sub modis, excepcionibus et condicionibus infrascriptis medietatem unius integre decime de bonis, beneficiis et possessionibus ecclesiasticis dicte provincie taxatis et ad decimam solvere consuetis, necnon de dignitatibus, personatibus, officiis perpetuis, bonis, beneficiis et possessionibus ecclesiasticis, dicte provincie non taxatis nec ad decimam solvere consuetis, secundum verum valorem eorundem, de quorum et cujusque eorum vero valore singuli episcopi suis diocesibus collectores ad hoc deputatos certificaverint et quorum literis certificatoriis in ea parte stetur omnino levandam et solvendam ad terminos infrascriptos videlicet unam medietatem dicte medietatis, quartam scilicet partem unius integre decime solvendam nobis in festo Sancti Martini in Yeme quod erit anno 1434 —The Carthusian House of Jesus of Bethlehem of Shene being excused, and the two colleges of St. Mary of Winchester and of Oxford. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium tercio die Augusti anno regni nostri undecimo.

Deputation by the bishop pursuant to the above writ of the prior and convent of Montacute to levy the fourth part of one entire tenth due at Martinmas, except of those excepted in the writ; and to levy the same also of goods and benefices of those not taxed and not usually paying to a tenth which are written in the schedule annexed. Dated in Dogmersfeld Manor, 23 August, 1433, the ninth year of his consecration.

Fol. 90d.

Certificate of the bishop to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of the above deputation; also that he has appointed the prior and convent of Bruton to levy another fourth part of the said tenth to be paid at Martinmas, 1434. Dated in his inn at London, 16 October, 1433, etc.

BENEFICIA ECCLESIASTICA NON TAXATA NEC AD DECIMAM 1433.  
 SOLVERE CONSUETA QUORUM VERUS VALOR ANNUUS SUMMAM  
 DUODECIM MARCARUM EXCEDIT DE QUIBUS ERGA TERMINOS  
 INFRASCRITOS SOLVETUR MEDIETAS DECIME DOMINO REGI  
 VIRTUTE CONCESSIONIS DE QUA FIT MENCIO IN BREVI CUJUS  
 TENOR INSERITUR IN LITERIS HIIS ANNEXIS.

[*This list agrees with that given on Fol. 71, with these exceptions.*]

Deanery of Ilchester is omitted.

Deanery of Axbridge.  
 The Vicarage of Eastbrent is omitted.

Fol. 91.

Deanery of Bath.  
 The Vicarage of St. Mary de Stallis is omitted.

Deanery of Mersshton.  
 The Vicarage of Henstrugge is omitted.

BENEFICIA TAXATA ET AD DECIMAM SOLVERE CONSUETA  
 PROPTER SUAM EXILITATEM EXCEPTA A SOLUCIONE MEDIE-  
 TATIS UNIUS DECIME DOMINO REGI CONCESSE PER MODUM  
 SICUT IN ANNEXA CEDULA CONTINETUR. IN QUIBUS CURATI  
 RESIDENT SEU SALTEM CUM ABSENTIBUS DISPENSATUR EX  
 CAUSA VELUTI IN HUIJUSMODI CONCESSIONE CAVETUR.

[*As on fol. 71d, except that in the deanery of Crukern East- Fol. 91d.  
 dawlissh represents Dowlisshwake.*]

421. Sept. 11. Woky manor. In furtherance of the business of an exchange of benefices between Sirs Thomas Pay, rector of the parish church of Pokyngton, and John Craas, perpetual vicar of the parish church of Northcory, the bishop instituted the latter to the church of Pokyngton, at the presentation of William Bonevyle, knight; and the first named to the vicarage of Northcory, at the presentation of Master John Reynold, subdean, and in the absence of the dean, president of the chapter, of the cathedral church of Wells, and the chapter.

1433.

422. Monicio contra parochianos de Mynhede et alios vagabundos ibidem non solventes decimam de lucro sive artificio piscandi.

Johannes etc. Magistris Willelmo Fulford, in legibus bacallario, de Norton, ac Thome Twyford, de Luccomb, ecclesiarum parochialium rectoribus, magistro Johanni Boghe notario publico ceterisque rectoribus et vicariis ac capellanis, curatis et non curatis, per totum decanatum de Dunsterr ubilibet constitutis, necnon discretis viris Johanni Bergham et Thome Chapman de Mynhede literatis, salutem etc. Humane condicio nature Divine legis pariter et humane, necnon sanctorum patrum oblita seu saltem non instructa preceptis quibus regeretur ad Salvatoris laudem et complacenciam, quanto profundius cum anime periculo in malum labitur per ignaviam, tanto providi consilii celerius indiget relevari suffragio per doctrinam ut edoceatur abstinere salubriter a vetitis et salutaribus jugiter inherere. Ast licet tam ex veteri Testamento quam ex nova lege preceptum de solutione decimarum autentici roboris habeat firmitatem, atque juxta Beati sentenciam Augustini fideliter solventibus decimas quadruplex remuneratio debetur, videlicet habundancia fructuum, sanitas corporis, remissio peccatorum et celeste regnum, e converso male solventes vel non dantes decimas quadrupliciter puniuntur quia Divinum mandatum prevaricantur, ad decimam rediguntur, plagis afficiuntur et exactionibus, quia quod non capit Christus tollit Festus, ut plurimum opprimuntur. Adhuc tamen quorundam parochianorum ecclesie parochialis de Mynhede et aliorum ibidem artificium sive factum piscandi exercencium, unde vicario predictae ecclesie ex debito solvere decimam obligantur, iniqua corruptela jam per aliqua tempora infelicem sicut credibiliter accepimus continuavit abusum, quod salutaribus atque legitimis in hac parte factis monicionibus non pensatis neque ceterorum dicte ecclesie parochianorum devotorum decimam de piscandi lucro atque artificio protinus et incontinenti cum debetur solvendi exemplari consuetudine laudabili non attenta. Quidam nec in aliqua parte seu fine anni solvere de lucro artificii predicti decimam justam volunt, alii quidam vagabundi ac ceteri nichil penitus pro hujusmodi lucro ad decimam soluto cum ejusdem vicarii discrimine ac injuria manifesta recedunt, unde nedum jus ecclesie publice et enormiter leditur, animarum-

Fol. 92.



que periculum committitur, sed et exemplum nimis perniciosum aliis ministratur; Nos enim humiliter pulsante, dilecto filio, domino Reginaldo Smyth, loci predicti vicarie, dictis injuriis occurrere et animarum periculis in premissis obviare juxta debitum officii cupientes sacrorum canonum sentenciis atque sanctorum patrum decretis editis in hac parte, sicut convenit, inherentes, vobis communiter et divisim committimus et mandamus quatinus omnes et singulos dicte ecclesie parochianos sedulis exhortacionibus, nostra auctoritate, publice moneatis ac viis et modis efficaciter inducatis, monerive et efficaciter induci faciatis, quos nos tenore presencium sic monemus ut uniformem decime de lucro et piscandi artificio veluti premittitur solucionem per totam parochiam juxta devotorum filiorum parochie predictae et aliorum de vicinia laudabilem consuetudinem, ut videlicet statim et incontinenti decimam de lucro, cum debetur, sicuti predictur, integre et fideliter persolvant et observent. Quodsi vestris, ymo verius nostris monicionibus in premissis debite non paruerint cum effectu, vobis Willelmo Fulford, Thome Twyford, ac Johanni Boghere supradictis, communiter et divisim tenore presencium potestatem concedimus contra non parentes monicionibus predictis legitime procedere per suspensionis excommunicacionis, et interdicti censuras in forma constitutionum provincialium in hac parte editarum fulminandas et cum alterius cujuscumque coercicionis canonice potestate sine strepitu et figura judiciali tociens quociens cuilibet vestrum trium videbitur utiliter expedire, cum ad hoc per partem Reginaldi vicarii supradicti contigerit vos requiri. In cujus rei testimonium presentibus literis nostris pro nostro beneplacito duraturis apponi fecimus sigillum nostrum. Data in manerio nostro de Banewell vicesimoprimo die mensis Septembris, 1433, etc.

423. Purgacio Thome Roberd clerici convicti.

Commission to Masters John Bernard, succentor, Richard Stourton and Sir John Hiller, canons, of the cathedral church of Wells, to admit and receive in the said church at such day as they shall fix the purgation of one Thomas Roberd of Pawlet, co. Somerset, clerk, convicted before William Westbury, William Pawlet, Alexander Hody and their fellows, justices, at Bruggewater on Wednesday before Whitsun day, 10 Henry VI. (1432),

1433. of having with others, on Thursday before the feast of St. Augustine the Apostle of the English, in that year, entered the houses of certain men and carried away certain things as is more fully contained in the schedule annexed [*not here*], who asserts that he is innocent of the premises. Dated at Banewell manor  
Fol. 92 $\bar{v}$ . 16 March, 1433, etc.

424. Notification by the bishop that Sir Thomas Cote, for many years perpetual vicar of the parish church of Paulet, has resigned the said vicarage on account of old age and infirmity; that the abbot and convent of St. Augustine's, Bristol, the patrons, have presented to the same Sir John Clerc, priest, who has been instituted by him; and that, with the consent of the said Sir John and the patrons, he has decreed to Sir Thomas for his life a pension of 7 marks out of the fruits of the vicarage. Dated in Bath priory, 18 September, 1433, etc.

425. Sept. 19. Bath palace. The bishop instituted Sir William Clerc, priest, as rector of the parish church of Sutton Byngnam, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Veel; at the presentation of Roger Wyke.

- Fol. 93. 426. Sept. 28. Andover. He instituted Sir John Tayllour, priest, as perpetual vicar of the parish church of Chiewton, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas Short; at the presentation of the prior and convent of the house of Jesus of Bethlem, Shene.

427. Sept. 26. Dogmersfeld. On receipt of a certificate of Simon, bishop of Chichester, upon the bishop's commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs John Hyrry, rector of the parish church of Odecomb, and David Mychil, rector of the parish church of Jevyngton of the diocese of Chichester, that he has instituted Sir David to the church of Odecomb, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Montacute, his oath of obedience was taken; a letter was written to the archdeacon of Wells for his induction.

428. Sept. 27. Dogmersfeld. On receipt of a certificate of Robert, bishop of Salisbury, upon the bishop's commission to him for an exchange of benefices between Sirs Richard Tydelyng, perpetual vicar of the parish church of St. James, Shaftesbury,

of the diocese of Salisbury, and Thomas Cronage, rector of the 1433. parish church of Pille, that he has instituted Sir Richard to the church of Pille, at the presentation of Thomas Kyngeston; his oath of obedience, etc. (*as above*).

429. Grant by the bishop to William Halle, his servant, and Nicholas Catour and Joan, his wife, of two messuages, one virgate and three fardels of land and meadow, in the manor of Banewell, which Nicholas and Joan held for life of the grant of Ralph Ergum, late bishop of Bath and Wells, and have surrendered into the present bishop's hands; to hold in survivorship by the rent of 27s. 1½*d.* and suit at the bishop's court of Banewell twice a year, namely at Michaelmas and Easter, and a heriot when one falls in. Witnesses:—John Storthwayt, clerk, John Hody, Robert Hillary, Robert Groute and John Welles. Dated at Bath, 21 September, 12 Henry VI., etc.

430. Sept. 21. Southwyk. The bishop appointed John Hillary to be his bailiff, during pleasure, of his fees in the counties of Somerset and Gloucester.

431. Oct. 5. Dogmersfeld. He instituted John Betty, clerk, as perpetual curate of the chantry of the chapel of Lytescary, *alias* Tokerescary, vacant by the death of Sir John Bisshop; at the presentation of John Lyte.

432. Oct. 15. London. He instituted Sir Thomas Gannull, priest, in the person of Sir John Lane, chaplain, his proctor, as rector of the parish church of St. Michael the Archangel, Ilchester, vacant by death; at the presentation of Sir William Boneyle, knight.

433. As above. On receipt of a commission of Robert, bishop of London, for an exchange of benefices between Master David Price, rector of the parish church of Dychesyate, and Sir John Hiller, rector of the parish church of St. Nicholas ad Marcellas, London, bishop John instituted Sir John to the church of Dychesyate; at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury, and Master David to the church of St. Nicholas at the presentation of Master Thomas Bourghchier, dean of the king's free chapel of St. Martin le Grand, London.

1433. 434. Oct. 31. London. On receipt of the king's presentation of Sir Thomas Trebon, chaplain, to the perpetual vicarage of the parish church of Stokecursy, the bishop, on account of the poverty of the benefice, commanded a commission *ad partes* to be made to Master John Bernard, his commissary general, to institute him.

Fol. 94.

435. Oct. 16. London. The bishop collated Sir John Hiller, priest, to a canonry and the prebend of St. Decumans in the cathedral church of Wells, vacant by the resignation of Master David Price; and instituted and invested him.

Fol. 94  
cont. and  
94d.

436. ROBERT, bishop of LONDON, to bishop JOHN. Transmits the tenour of a mandate to him of Henry, archbishop of Canterbury, dated in his manor of Lamehith, 2 October, 1433, to summon the convocation of the province of Canterbury, strengthened by the presence and counsel of doctors and clerks in theology and canon and civil law, to appear in the cathedral church of St. Paul, London, or elsewhere, if more expedient, on the morrow of St. Leonard, 7 November next, and following days, as commanded by the king's writ to the archbishop, of which the tenour is contained in the mandate. Dated at Westminster, 1 October, 12 Henry VI. Dated at London, 15 October, 1433.

Fol. 95.

Commission to Masters John Bernard, canon and succentor of Wells, the bishop's commissary general, John Boghere, notary public, and Peter Cole, the bishop's apparitor general, to execute the above mandate, so that the bishop may be certified thereof in London the morrow of All Souls with the names of those cited, by their letters of certificate under an authentic seal; warning especially Masters John Pederton, vicar of the parish church of Southpederton, John Parys, rector of the parish church of , John Wodeward, rector of the parish church of Tyntenhull, Richard Elys, rector of the parish church of Sparkford, and William Fulford, rector of the parish church of Norton, for the causes expressed in the letters abovesaid, to come to the convocation, if they think they can conveniently be present there. Dated in the bishop's inn at London, 18 October, 1433, etc.

The bishop's certificate to the archbishop of the execution of the mandate. Dated —.











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